



Jordan Times

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Israeli minister proposes boycotting Germany

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — A senior minister proposed Saturday that Israel and world Jewry boycott Germany if the Bonn government does not crack down on neo-Nazis. Education Minister Shulamit Aloni, head of Meretz, Israel's third largest political party, will ask the Israeli cabinet on Sunday to demand Germany take immediate steps against right wing extremists, said Meretz spokesman Ron Melamed. If it does not, Mr. Melamed said, Ms. Aloni wants Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's government to urge all Israeli and world Jewry to boycott Germany and stop travelling there. "At this stage boycott means just not traveling there, but this could be expanded," Mr. Melamed said in a telephone interview. He added that while the move may have little impact it was Israel's "moral obligation" to stand up against neo-Nazism. The German government has come under increasing criticism for not taking a firmer hand in quelling right wing extremism. On Friday it banned a right-wing extremist group called the nationalistic front. Head of the opposition Likud faction in Israel's parliament, Moshe Katzav, said Israel should cut diplomatic ties with Germany if immediate steps were not taken to curb neo-Nazis. Israel radio reported.

PLO wants European 'high commissioner' at talks

CAIRO (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) wants the appointment of a European "high commissioner" with a permanent role in the Middle East peace process, a PLO official said Saturday. "We are seeking to have an effective European role in the peace process by having Europe appoint a European high commissioner (in the talks) to carry out a constant and continuous role with a political weight," Nabil Shaath said. Mr. Shaath, one of the main Palestinian strategists for the Arab-Israeli peace talks, said having a European representative as an additional sponsor would not "impair the American role" in the talks. Speaking on his return from a two-month tour of Europe and the United States, Mr. Shaath said he had discussed with European leaders prospects of strengthening their role in the peace talks which made little progress since they opened in October 1991. He said he would meet Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa to discuss the Palestinian proposals. Mr. Shaath said PLO leader Yasser Arafat would visit Cairo for the second time in less than a month to discuss with Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak the Arab position before the start of the eighth round of peace negotiations scheduled for Dec. 7.

Princess gives birth

MONTE CARLO — Princess Stephanie of Monaco gave birth to a son, Prince Louis, at the Prince's Palace on Saturday. The prince, weighing 3.1 kilograms (6.8 pounds), the princess said, is doing well. It is the first child of the couple, who have been married since 1976. The princess said she was born at 10.15 p.m. and was 34 years old at the time. The prince's name is Louis II, the second son of the prince and princess. The princess said she was born at 10.15 p.m. and was 34 years old at the time. The prince's name is Louis II, the second son of the prince and princess.

Prince Hassan, Princess Sarvath return home

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath returned home Saturday after a visit to the United Kingdom. The Crown Prince delivered an address at the One Broadcasting Trust and the Princess gave a lecture at the British Council. The couple arrived in Amman after a two-day visit to London. The Crown Prince and Princess Sarvath were accompanied by their children, Prince Faisal and Princess Alia. The couple arrived in Amman on Saturday morning. The Crown Prince and Princess Sarvath were accompanied by their children, Prince Faisal and Princess Alia. The couple arrived in Amman on Saturday morning.

Council of Ministers approve agreements

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Ministers Saturday evening approved a draft protocol on cooperation between Jordan and Pakistan in countering narcotics. The draft agreement, signed in Amman, provides for a change of information and cooperation in apprehending and prosecuting over drug-traffickers. The council also approved an air transport agreement with Bulgaria under the agreement, Jordanian customs will enjoy exemption from customs duty on imports of goods from Bulgaria. The council also approved an air transport agreement with Poland initiated in September this year. Furthermore, the Council of Ministers decided to allocate 34,000 to cover the cost of water and designs for water projects in Baqaa and Nusair.

AK goes to the polls

AK (J.T.) — Polling stations were kept open two hours less than their scheduled closing (5 p.m.) Saturday evening for voters in the southern city of Akko. The council of ministers decided to allocate 10,500 voters had cast their ballots. At the time of press no results were available.

Israeli troops kill Palestinian

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Israeli troops opened fire on Palestinian protesters in occupied Gaza Strip Friday, killing one man and wounding others, Palestinian and Israeli reports said. The Israeli army said a man was killed and another was wounded. The Israeli army said a man was killed and another was wounded.

British troops kill Palestinian

LONDON — British troops killed a Palestinian man in the West Bank on Saturday. The man was killed by a bullet fired from a British soldier. The man was killed by a bullet fired from a British soldier.

Japanese guerrillas hit Israel's BS

BEIRUT (R) — The Syrian-backed Movement said its guerrillas attacked a pro-Israeli militia point in South Lebanon on Friday, wounding three militiamen. An Amal statement said the guerrillas fired anti-tank rockets and machineguns at the Hamra militia point named by the Lebanese Army (SLA). The SLA said the guerrillas fired at the village of Hamra, just north of Hamra. The SLA said the guerrillas fired at the village of Hamra, just north of Hamra.

French president ends visit to Jordan King, Mitterrand deplore slow pace of peace talks, urge Israel to recognise PLO

By Ayman Al Safadi
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — French President Francois Mitterrand Saturday ended a two-day visit to Jordan aimed at boosting French and European roles in the Middle East peace process. His Majesty King Hussein welcomed an increased French involvement in efforts to bring about peace, security and stability to the region, saying France has a major role to play in what he described as the "final chance" to achieve Middle East peace.



His Majesty King Hussein and French President Francois Mitterrand at a press conference at the Royal Hashemite Court Saturday (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

"France has a major role to play in contributing to a solution to a (conflict) that threatens world peace," King Hussein said at a joint press conference with President Mitterrand Saturday. King Hussein reiterated Jordan's commitment to the achievement of a just and comprehensive peace on the basis of United Nations Security Council resolutions. Saying that Jordan was only interested in peace that future generations can protect and live with, King Hussein said fragmenting the "problem and step by step solutions will not get us anywhere."

King Hussein and President Mitterrand agreed at the press conference that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, urging Israel to recognise it as such. "The Palestine Liberation Organisation is the only representative of the Palestinian people and we cannot reject what exists while waiting for that could be," President Mitterrand said. The PLO "is the necessary interlocutors," he said through an interpreter. President Mitterrand earlier said he supported the creation of a Palestinian state but stressed France's belief in the right of Israel to defend and secure borders. President Mitterrand, who flew to Amman from Israel Friday, said: "I have no doubt about (Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's) desire for peace."

King Hussein deplored the slow pace of the Arab-Israeli peace talks, saying there "was a lack of vision to what could be done." The King said the talks have thus far failed to address the crux of the Arab-Israeli conflict: The Palestinian problem. Praising the courage of the Palestinian people and their genuine desire for peace, the King said: "Amongst the most important elements not addressed is the Palestinian dimension and their rights on their soil."

Cyprus ready to disarm if Turkey withdraws

NICOSIA (AP) — Cyprus is ready to go beyond a U.N. Security Council call to cut defence spending and disarm completely if Turkey withdraws from the island's northern occupied zone, Defence Minister Andreas Alofantis said Saturday. The government has also offered to substantially increase its contribution to paying for the U.N. peacekeeping force on the island to maintain its present strength of 2,150 troops, he told the Associated Press.

Central Asian nations join economic bloc

ISLAMABAD (R) — Five former Soviet republics and Afghanistan formally joined Iran, Pakistan and Turkey on Saturday to create a huge Muslim economic bloc linking Europe and Asia along the ancient Silk Road. "Today the aspirations of 300 million people who share a common heritage and culture have been realised," Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif said after the signing ceremony. Foreign ministers of Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Afghanistan signed the founding charter of the Economic Cooperation Organisation (ECO), forming the biggest economic bloc after the European Community. The Treaty of Izmir was amended to expand ECO membership from three — Iran, Pakistan and Turkey — to 10. Tajikistan, already accepted as a member, did not sign because domestic upheaval prevented its representative from attending. Oil-rich Kazakhstan, which stretches from China to the Urals, was a late applicant for membership on Friday, having previously opted for observer status while considering seeking entry to the European Community (EC). Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said he hoped the expanded body would lead to an Islamic common market, and he proposed the further slashing of tariffs, creation of an ECO airline and establishment of satellite links. Mr. Sharif dismissed fears that an enlarged ECO, grouping 25 per cent of the world's Muslims, would emerge as an Islamic bloc.

Islamists win Yarmouk elections

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter
YRBID — Islamists won the lion's share in last week's students union elections at Yarmouk University, securing 32 out of the 50-seat union's council. The council will serve throughout the current academic year. Dean of the university's Students Affairs Department Ibrahim Wazarmas told the Jordan Times Saturday that 216 candidates representing seven departments and faculties contested the elections which took a whole week to complete. Elections were held separately in each department. "The elections were held in a free and democratic atmosphere," Dr. Wazarmas said. Dr. Wazarmas said that out of the 50 elected students for the union's council, 14 represented the Faculty of Arts, 12 the Faculty of Sciences, 11 the Faculty of Administrative Sciences, 10 the Faculty of Education and Arts, two the Hijawi College, two the Islamic Sharia Department and three represented the Institute of Anthropology. He said most of the post graduate students did not vote and nominate one for the two seats they have on the council. The two seats will remain vacant, he said. The Students Affairs Department will offer the union all facilities for its activities and will cooperate with the Union's Council in handling students affairs, said Dr. Wazarmas. "The union and the department complement one another in such activities," he added. Dr. Wazarmas, who announced the results of the elections at a press conference Saturday, said that among the winners were six female students. He said that the council will meet on Wednesday to choose a seven-member administrative board.

Venezuelan troops battle rebels

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — An army gunship shot down a rebel helicopter Saturday after strafing the government palace where President Carlos Andres Perez was holed up following Friday's coup attempt, the second this year. The four police officers inside the unmarked, private helicopter died after their craft crashed in the Los Flores De Catia neighbourhood on the west side of Caracas, said Lt. Col. Jose Antonio Paez, a government spokesman. A funeral scheduled Saturday for three presidential guards executed by rebels Friday was cancelled by Mr. Perez as gunfire continued around the palace. The gunfire later moved to the middle-class Jan. 23 neighbourhood, named for the date Venezuela's last dictator was overthrown in 1959. Snipers and holdout rebels were blamed for the shooting, but the government felt secure enough that the worst of the uprising had been quelled to reopen Simon Bolivar international airport near the capital. At least 100 people have died since rebels began their insurrection early Friday, government officials and newspapers said. Rebels said they were acting for the poor in this oil-exporting nation when they bombed the presidential palace and took over a government-owned TV station and two airfields. At least 34 people were killed in the insurrection and 42 others died when prisoners staged an uprising in Caracas' Reten De Catia prison, government officials and independent newspapers said. One of the leaders of the rebel uprising, Air Force Brig. Gen. Francisco Visconti, and 90 supporters fled Friday for Peru, where they requested political asylum, according to radio and news reports. Mr. Visconti refused to make any statements Saturday morning to a Radioprogramas reporter and said he had not yet met with any Peruvian foreign ministry officials. The Peruvian radio station said 91 members of the Venezuelan military flew to Iquitos, including 44 officers. Mr. Visconti had led the takeover of the Libertador airfield in Maracay, 80 kilometres (50 miles) southwest of Caracas. He commanded the Mirage Group, an elite air unit in charge of Venezuela's estimated 12 French Mirage jets. The Mirages were recently refitted in France to increase their fire power. Only military elements in Maracay and Caracas went into rebellion Friday. The Francisco De Miranda metropolitan airfield in Caracas also was briefly taken over by rebels. The two other main rebel leaders, Adm. German Gruder and Adm. Luis Enrique Contreras, who staged the takeover of government to station channel 8, were captured and are being held with about 100 other rebels at the military's main garrison in south.

Jordan to raise water problems in bilateral talks

THE HAGUE (R) — Israel and Jordan will hold bilateral discussions on water problems in Washington next month. Water and Irrigation Minister Samir Kavar has said. "There will be a bilateral on water in Washington in December," he told Reuters in an interview while attending a water and environment forum here. "After the national issue (of Palestinians), water is the most important issue between us," he said. A multilateral conference in Vienna in May looked at the problems of sharing water between the Palestinians of the occupied territories and Israel. It identified water as a key area of dispute between the Arabs and Israel. Israel draws over half its fresh water from the springs and rivers of the West Bank. "The West Bank has a lot of underground water but nearly all of it is used by the Israelis," Mr. Kavar said. Jordanian and Israeli negotiators recently agreed on a draft agenda for bilateral negotiations on a variety of subjects in the Middle East peace process. Mr. Kavar said Jordan has proposed some amendments to the agenda, which the Jordanian government has not yet signed. "The substance can be discussed in other sessions. We have a long way to go in discussions but we are ready for it," he said. Since the region is arid and all countries there face serious water shortages by the turn of the century, both the Israelis and the Arabs regard water as a vital strategic resource. "Peace in the Middle East depends to a great extent on environmental cooperation, in particular on the equitable sharing of water resources," Laurens-Jan Brinkhorst, a senior European Commission Environmental official, told the conference. He pointed out that the population of the region was set to increase from 205 million to 420 million in the next 25 years. "Unless tough economic decisions are taken in favour of better management of water resources, drought will prevail in the future," he said. A steering committee for multilateral talks meets in London on Dec. 3 and 4 to set dates for a new round of negotiations on water sharing, Palestinian refugees, economic cooperation, arms control and the environment.

Algeria tightens screw on Islamic Front

ALGIERS (R) — Algerian authorities prepared on Saturday to disband public assemblies, companies and charities controlled by Muslim fundamentalists and simultaneously speed up "anti-terrorist" operations. "The government is determined to proceed to the dissolution of all assemblies controlled by the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) where it has been proved there is any link with the destabilising action led by the outlawed FIS," the official APS news agency said, quoting a reliable source. "This measure of dissolution will also hit commercial firms, whatever their object, particularly those which produce publications judged subversive," the agency said. The government was also determined to end Islamic Labour Leagues and charitable or cultural groups whose founders or leaders had held any position with the FIS, APS added. It said Prime Minister Belaid Abdesselam also summoned security chiefs, the governors of eight central provinces, and the interior minister to look at speeding up anti-terrorist operations. Extremists have killed about 170 members of the security forces since February when a state of emergency was imposed to counter fundamentalist unrest. Violence swept Algerian cities after the authorities cancelled a general election in which the FIS had taken a landslide first-round lead. Earlier this year, the authorities sacked elected officials in some 400 local and regional authorities and replaced them with government appointees. Most of the elected officials took power on the FIS ticket in 1990 elections when the fundamentalist party won control of more than half Algeria's town halls and took over 32 of its 48 regional authorities. APS said the government had also taken measures to back up the men appointed to run the local authorities, at least one of whom appointee has been wounded in an attack blamed on fundamentalists and others have received death threats. The APS report of the proposed sweeping measures against fundamentalists came six days before the expiry of a partial amnesty offered with a tough anti-terrorist law that was introduced in October. According to press reports about 60 extremists have given themselves up under the amnesty, providing information which has helped in the arrests of some 900 people.

U.N. officials in Somalia stress need for protection

From P.V. Vivekanand reporting from Mogadishu
AMID A new spate of daring attacks by looters and bandits, relief officials and Somali community leaders are calling for immediate deployment of United Nations soldiers to protect relief aid shipments and distribution in the war-torn country. At least half a dozen attacks were reported against U.N. officials and relief workers of international agencies trying to feed hundreds of thousands of starving Somalis in the past week. Most of the attacks appeared aimed at robbing the U.N. and other aid organisations of their vehicles, but some officials also see signs of unease among many gunmen who fear that any strong foreign troop deployment would deprive them of their thriving trade of looting and robbery. "If there has to be any deployment it has to be done immediately without any delay," said a senior U.N. official. "Just talking about it will only raise tension here." "Perhaps the attacks are also aimed at creating a new sense of urgency for troop deployment," said another senior U.N. official, referring to the public calls made by Ali Mahdi, the self-styled interim president, for international forces to be sent to his country, where decades of neglect and corruption worked hand in hand with a civil war to bring out widespread starvation and misery. Mr. Aided, a former army general and ambassador under the Mohammad Siad Barre regime which was ousted last year, fears that U.N. troops would serve as a shield against any attack on his adversaries, including his one-time ally Ali Mahdi. Mr. Aided, who took up arms against Ali Mahdi to reaffirm his rejection of the interim government which replaced the Siad Barre regime, has indirectly welcomed the reports of American plans to send troops to Somalia, but the media under his control are letting off attacks against attacks against the United Nations. "There is a stark contradiction in Aided's statements," said a Western diplomat based in Nairobi. "But the contradiction appears to be cleverly designed to disguise his true approach to the situation." Reports from Washington said Friday that the U.S. administration had offered to send Amer-

Iran sheds moderate image, rebuilds military

By Ed Blanche
The Associated Press

NICOSIA — Iran is shedding the moderate image it sought to acquire in the last few years, spreading revolutionary tentacles once again while rebuilding its military power.

Fundamentalist radicals supported by Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the supreme spiritual leader, appear to have gained ascendancy over President Hashemi Rafsanjani, who had tried to temper the Islamic revolution and improve relations with the West.

As in the days of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, the late revolutionary patriarch, Iran is throwing its political weight and oil money behind Islamic militants across the Arab World, from Algeria to Sudan.

Knowledgeable sources in Tehran say that support will grow.

The United States and its Gulf allies are worried by Iran's multibillion-dollar rearmament programme, including what many Western officials believe is a determination to acquire nuclear weapons.

Their fear is that, even as Iran grows stronger militarily, it will become less stable because of growing unrest, a struggling economy and a burgeoning population expected to surpass 100 million over the next decade.

Gulf Arabs are alarmed at Iran's annexation in August of Abu Musa, a tiny but strategic island at the mouth of the Strait of Hormuz, the chokepoint for Gulf tanker traffic.

They see this as a move by Iran, which held Abu Musa jointly with the United Arab Emirates since 1971, to control the strait.

Iran's revived expansionist designs are emerging in a period of world and regional disorder created by the collapse of communism in Europe and the Gulf war.

Radicals in Tehran see a new opportunity to exploit Arab disarray. This coincides with a growing perception in the West that Islamic fundamentalism is the new enemy and Iran once more

the bogeyman.

Robert Gates, departing CIA director, said last week that Iran could pose a threat to the United States in three to five years.

Washington, which sells billions in military hardware to the Saudis and others in the region, is trying to organise international sanctions to block the sale of high technology material to Iran.

This strengthens the Iranian belief that the Americans want revenge for the 1979 seizure of the U.S. embassy, hostage taking by Iranian-backed Shiite Muslim extremists in Lebanon, exposure of the Reagan administration's arms-for-hostages deals in 1985-1986 and the Beirut suicide bombings that killed hundreds of Americans.

With Iraq defanged, Israel also considers Iran to be its main enemy.

NEWS ANALYSIS

The Iranians see danger in all this and in the "demonisation campaign" they feel Washington is conducting.

Mr. Rafsanjani denies Iran is a military threat and accuses the West, America in particular, of whipping up paranoia "to alarm the regional countries in order to sell them more weapons and to try to prevent the strengthening of cordial ties between Iran and these countries."

But Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati, a powerful radical close to Mr. Khamenei, probably typified the Tehran mood more accurately when he declared on Nov. 13: "The Americans keep saying Iran is a threat... which is true. We're glad to learn that we're threat to our enemies. We should not be afraid of making our intentions known."

Iranian legislators are debating a measure that would substantially increase financial contributions to Muslim fundamentalist groups abroad.

Plans are being discussed to support beleaguered Muslims in Bosnia in their war with Serbs, Iranian sources report.

Tehran denies allegations that

it has supplied weapons to Bosnia, but it clearly is targeting Bosnia because, as one source noted, "it's in the heart of Christian Europe."

In southern Lebanon, Muslim guerrillas trained and indoctrinated by Iranian Revolutionary Guards have increased their attacks on Israel's self-designated "security zone," setting off the worst fighting in months.

Iran and its Lebanese surrogate Hizbollah, or Party of God, have vowed to wreck U.S.-sponsored Arab-Israeli peace talks.

Arab sources say Iran has pledged \$30 million to Hamas, a Palestinian Islamic movement that opposes the talks and has offered to train 3,000 fighters.

Hamas leaders based in Jordan regularly visit Tehran, which is arming fundamentalists in Jordan as well, Jordanian intelligence sources say.

Egypt accuses Iran of supporting Islamic fundamentalists who launch violent attacks on the government, Christians and foreign tourists.

Retired Gen. Abdul Sattar Ali, an Egyptian analyst, said recently that Iran is "definitely... preparing for a war in the Gulf" and aims "to control the Middle East, under the cover of Islamic revolution, through extremist groups."

The Iranians have sent weapons and Revolutionary Guards to help Sudan's Islamic government crush Christian rebels in the south.

Tehran and Khartoum deny that, but Western officials and the Egyptian believe Iran sees Sudan as a base for fomenting revolution in North Africa.

Armed fundamentalist groups, apparently financed by Tehran, have sprung up recently in Somalia, Ethiopia and Eritrea.

Algeria's military regime is embroiled in a conflict with fundamentalists and has reduced its diplomatic mission in Tehran to almost zero to protest "hostility and interference."

Ayatollah Jannati declared this month that Iran is activating its agents around the world for the "Third World War" between Iran and the West.

Bush shakes off torpor with Somalia offer

By Susan Cornwell
Reuter

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine — U.S. President George Bush shook off his post-election torpor by offering to send U.S. troops to Somalia, but analysts say it remains to be seen whether he is doing President-Elect Bill Clinton a favour or stealing his thunder.

Mr. Bush, who had been inactive and reclusive since his Nov. 3 election loss to Mr. Clinton, returned his administration to the world news spotlight with the U.S. offer this week to lead a United Nations military mission to feed starving Somalis.

Analysts said the humanitarian gesture would almost certainly add a positive note to history's assessment of the final days of the Bush administration.

But the effects on Mr. Clinton's presidency are less clear. He takes over the White House Jan. 20, when the military aid mission, assuming it is attempted, may well be in full swing.

"Whatever their intentions are, it certainly does make Bush look good," said Larry Sabato, a political analyst at the University of Virginia.

But he said the U.S. troops offer, made to the United Nations this week by Acting Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger, could actually upstage any plans Mr. Clinton had for Somalia. The Democrat has long supported stronger action to get food past warring clans to reach Somali victims of famine.

"Maybe they are anticipating

the sorts of moves that Clinton will take right in the beginning that will contrast his activity with Bush's inaction — and this move will head that off," Mr. Sabato said.

"I'm sure that is not the only motivation. I'm sure the U.N. is concerned and the Somalis clearly need it. But if it serves the additional purpose, all the better (for Bush)."

But Brookings Institution analyst Stephen Hess said he thought Mr. Bush was simply reminding the country that he was still the commander-in-chief. "I think he's doing those things that he thinks a president should do, reminding us he's president for a few more weeks," he said.

Had such a move been taken during the last presidential transition, from Ronald Reagan to Mr. Bush in 1988, "you would have said the outgoing president is doing the incoming president a great favour by taking an action that may be unpopular, and taking the heat," Mr. Hess said.

The White House did not formally announce the U.S. offer of troops to oversee aid shipments to Somalia, letting the story trickle out instead in Washington while Mr. Bush took a Thanksgiving holiday at his vacation home in Kennebunkport, Maine.

"White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater told reporters in Kennebunkport Friday that the United States only contemplated sending troops as part of a U.N. mission. He declined to discuss

how many forces might be sent. Mr. Bush did not make himself available to reporters for comment, and Mr. Fitzwater said the president was trying to keep a low profile.

"Our interest is in the president doing his job. He's managing this situation. He's calling a lot of people around the country and the world," Mr. Fitzwater said as Mr. Bush played golf.

"But we want the focus to be on the president-elect. He's the one that's putting a new government together in Little Rock, so the president will have a pretty low profile and let the press focus on the new administration and the work that they're doing," Mr. Fitzwater said.

Just last week, Mr. Fitzwater said Mr. Bush did not plan any major new initiatives during his remaining time in office because he did not want to tie Mr. Clinton's hands.

He said Friday that Mr. Bush was moved to act in the case of Somalia by the deteriorating situation there, with children under the age of five virtually wiped out by starvation.

So far, Mr. Clinton has said he has supports Mr. Bush's action. He is being kept informed by National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft.

"No specific option has been settled on. The important thing is that they (the administration) want to do more," Mr. Clinton said.

Mr. Sabato thinks there is nothing inappropriate about Mr. Bush's action as long as he has Mr. Clinton's support.



Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz addresses the United Nations Security Council before the Council voted to maintain its embargo on Iraq, rejecting an appeal that the sanctions be lifted (AFP photo)

Iraq had no 'illusions' about U.S. response to invasion

NEW YORK (AP) — The Iraqi government did not take U.S. Ambassador April Glaspie's July 1990 comments as a green light to invade Kuwait a week later. Iraq's deputy prime minister said in an interview published Friday.

"We didn't have any false illusion about the position of the United States," Tariq Aziz told USA Today. "We knew the United States would have a strong reaction."

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein did not expect Washington to "sit and watch" the invasion, Mr. Aziz added.

"We knew it would lead to a conflict," he said. "And later when they sent troops, we knew it would lead to war."

Administration critics said Mr. Glaspie's remark to Mr. Hussein that the United States took "no position" on Iraq-Kuwait border and oil disputes as evidence President George Bush misread the situation in the days before Iraq's Aug. 2, 1990, invasion of Kuwait.

But Mr. Aziz said Ms. Glaspie did not carry any high level message.

"She just listened and made general comments," he said. "To be fair, she acted in a professional manner."

In October, State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said Ms. Glaspie's meeting with Mr.

Hussein was held on short notice and no instructions had been provided from Washington.

Ms. Glaspie is still a U.S. diplomat, and a State Department official said recently she is awaiting a new assignment.

Mr. Aziz has said the United Nations should lift sanctions against his country so that Baghdad can help counter a growing military threat from Iran, the state-run Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported Saturday.

The Deputy Prime Minister said Iraq's recent annexation of Abu Musa, a strategic island in the Strait of Hormuz that it had been sharing with the United Arab Emirates, was an example of Tehran's ambitions.

"Iran is spending billions of dollars to impose itself as a dominant force, and the occupation of Abu Musa is an example of Iran's methods," Mr. Aziz said.

"Therefore, ending the unjust sanctions is necessary in order to enable Iraq to play its role as a force commensurate with Iran's," he added.

Mr. Aziz is a former foreign minister who served as Iraq's international point man during the Gulf crisis sparked by the Aug. 2, 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

It was not clear where his remarks were made or exactly

when, but up to the end of the week, Mr. Aziz was in New York for talks at the United Nations.

The Security Council refused his request to end the sanctions, saying Iraq had failed to comply with the demands of the ceasefire that ended the Gulf war — especially a requirement that Baghdad scrap its weapons of mass destruction.

In his latest comments, quoted by INA in a dispatch monitored in Cyprus, Mr. Aziz said "Iraq and area countries are the only ones that can cope with Iranian dangers."

That argument was strikingly similar to the rationale given by Western countries for arming Iraq in the years before the Kuwait invasion: As a bulwark against Iranian expansionism.

That argument collapsed in the wake of the invasion.

Iran has been re-arming itself with Russian, North Korean and Chinese weaponry. It has been reported to be seeking nuclear weapons capability, but repeatedly has denied this.

The purchase of two Russian built submarines has made Iran the only country in the Gulf with underwater warfare capability.

Washington and its Arab allies say the submarines have tilted the balance of naval power in the region in revolutionary Iran's favour.

U.S. threatens action against Libya

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine (AP) — The United States has condemned Libya's continued refusal to hand over the alleged bombers of a Pan American jetliner in 1988 and said it would redouble its efforts to bring the suspects to justice.

In a statement issued on the first anniversary of the U.N. resolution that demanded that Libya give up the alleged terrorists, the White House called on Libya to "end its defiance of the international community."

The Dec. 21, 1988 bombing killed all 259 people on board Pan Am Flight 103 and 11 on the ground near Lockerbie, Scotland. Two suspects, both Libyan intelligence operatives, were indicated by a federal grand jury last year, and they are wanted for trial in England as well.

The White House warned that Libya's continued refusal will "only result in furthering its isolation from the world community."

The statement cautioned Libya that the United States, England, France and other allied countries would "intensify their efforts... to make the sanctions adopted by the United Nations Security Council in March yet more effective."

The White House did not explain what actions the allies planned to take in addition to the

March actions that embargoed flights to and from Libya. Libya's diplomatic presence abroad also has been curtailed as numerous countries expelled Libyan envoys, and arms sales to Libya have dried up.

Britain Friday reiterated demands that Libya hand over two Libyans suspected of bombing Pan Am Flight 103, but gave no indication of how it intended to tighten sanctions.

Earlier, France, Britain and the United States in a joint statement attacked Libya for failing to comply with U.N. Security Council demands and said they would make sanctions "even more effective."

The White House did not explain what actions the allies planned to take in addition to the

Iranian official leaves for Sudan

NICOSIA (AP) — The head of the Iranian judiciary, Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi, left for Sudan Saturday, Tehran Radio reported.

The trip came at a time when Egypt, Sudan's northern neighbour, has accused Tehran and Khartoum of smuggling arms to Muslim extremists. The anti-government radicals have attacked tourists in a bid to hurt the

government's major source of income.

Iran's President Hashemi Rafsanjani visited Sudan in December 1991. The visit, and several high level exchanges since then, underscore Iran's interest in Khartoum.

Western intelligence reports have said Iran is using Sudan as a base to spread its Islamic revolution in North Africa.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, said Mr. Yazdi was leading a high-ranking delegation whose primary goal was to advise Khartoum about the implementation of Islamic Law.

It said Mr. Yazdi also would be holding political and economic discussions and following up on issues discussed during Mr. Rafsanjani's visit. The report did not elaborate.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Rights league rejects Tunis terms

TUNIS (R) — The head of the Tunisian Human Rights League (LTDH), once one of the most active in the Arab World organisation will not bow to government conditions as it being allowed to operate. League President Moncef Marzouki, who has been refused to accept government conditions for the holding of a special congress as unacceptable, has set unacceptable conditions for the league's extraordinary congress, he said. "I, as league and my friends have refused to sanction a formal congress sole purpose of getting rid of a certain number of people submitting to the (new) law." The authorities banned in June after it refused to comply with a decree insisting membership to all applicants but exclude members of parties. Human rights leaders accused the authorities of take control of the league and limit its independent authorities agreed in September to let the league hold congress provided it agreed to abide by the decree. The planned for the end of October, was postponed to date because of disagreements among supporters and opposition compromise with the government.

Confusion caused attack on Turks

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. Navy will announce that the aircraft carrier Saratoga fired missiles at a Turkish ship, killing five sailors, because U.S. sailors thought a real attack. Pentagon sources said. Fifteen other Turkish sailors were injured when one of the U.S. anti-aircraft missiles was fired when the Saratoga crew was investigating the Turkish destroyer Muavenet on Oct. 1 during a NATO exercise in the Aegean Sea. Defence sources said a navy investigation of the incident was under way. The sources said the navy in report is to be released at a news conference at the Fleet's headquarters in Naples, Italy, sometime next week. The report would say the cause of the accident was a captain and four crew of the Turkish destroyer were one of the missiles hit the bridge. The two ships were a miles apart and about 80 miles west of the Turkish port of the time of the accident.

U.N. 'prevented' Velayati's Sarajevo

NICOSIA (R) — An Iranian newspaper Saturday a United Nations of preventing Iranian Foreign Minister Velayati from travelling to Sarajevo. "Last Wed (Velayati) left for the Croatian capital of Zagreb and visit Sarajevo, but failed to accomplish his trip due to responses from U.N. officials," said the English-language Times. "The West probably did not want the Iranian minister to be witness to the murders that are in Sarajevo," the Iranian News Agency (IRNA) quoted considered close to the foreign ministry, as saying. Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) suspended all flights into Sarajevo after a French plane a solitary bullet Wednesday. Officials in Zagreb said relief planes flew to Sarajevo Thursday without any UNHCR sources said Mr. Velayati had been scheduled Sarajevo Wednesday morning but he had arrived in the late afternoon. The Tehran Times said Iran did not want religious war between the Bosnian Muslims and Serb warned "Serb aggression" could only be stopped by

French daily banned in Tunisia

PARIS (R) — The French daily Liberation said Friday, banned indefinitely in Tunisia because of its reporting drug trial involving the brother of Tunisian President Habib Ibn Ali. A spokesman for the centre-left news told of the official ban Thursday by its distributing agent not given any reason. "There is no doubt that the connection with the trial," he said. The newspaper, some 500 copies in Tunisia, had been seized on several occasions since the trial started two weeks ago. Tunisia media silent about the trial while denouncing what they called against Tunisia in the French press. A state prosecutor requested 12 years in jail against Habib Ibn Ali, who is in absentia on charges of laundering money from a known as the "Couscous Connection." Twenty-five o isians are on trial for their role in the network. The government has denied any knowledge or involvement in and Ibn Ali's French lawyer, Jean-Yves Le Borgne, said case was an attempt by Islamic fundamentalists to dis president. A verdict is expected Tuesday.

Iranian charged with beheading it

NEW YORK (R) — A 19-year-old from Iran was charged with beheading his father, a wealthy jeweller York's diamond district, police said. Hamid Raza Bayat, a few hours after the mutilated body of his father, I Bayat, was discovered in the living room of the apartment shared with his son. In addition to being decapitated, middle fingers and his left testicle were cut off, said spokesman. The father's head and that of a cat were late another part of the apartment building. One of the cat's also missing. Neighbours told police they heard a loud in the Bayat apartment before dawn. Hours later, the doorman told police he observed the victim's son dropping knives and razors. The doorman then went to apartment and discovered the mutilated corpse. The he animal statues and the head of a parakeet in a cage apartment were also cut off, police said. The teenager was at a hospital where he had gone for treatment of cuts of

Garang says murder charges 'unfair'

NAIROBI (R) — Sudanese rebel chief John Garang is "unfair" to accuse his group of involvement in the murder foreign relief workers and a journalist without a proper investigation. "For us to be judged in the press is unfair... We need investigation," Mr. Garang, leader of the Sudan People's Army (SPLA), told reporters in Nairobi. U.N. relief been suspended in rebel-held eastern Equatoria province September killings of Norwegian journalists.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 773111-14

PROGRAMME TWO

| | |
|-------|---------------------|
| 17:30 | Revea d'enfants |
| 17:35 | La Piste de Nuputon |
| 17:40 | News French |
| 17:45 | Documentary |
| 17:50 | News in Hebrew |
| 17:55 | News in Arabic |
| 18:00 | Family Matters |
| 18:05 | Documentary |
| 18:10 | News in English |
| 18:15 | Law and Order |

PRAYER TIMES

| | |
|-------|----------------|
| 06:49 | Fajr |
| 11:23 | (Sunrise) Doha |
| 11:23 | Dhuhr |
| 16:36 | Asr |
| 17:57 | Maghreb |
| 17:57 | Isha |

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swetich Tel. 810740

Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 627785

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terrence Church Tel. 622466

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

Anglican Church Tel. 639511

Tel. 620543

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261

Syrian Orthodox Church Tel. 771751

Armenian International Church Tel. 685326

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Tel. 623804, 64932

Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675691

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Clouds will increase gradually and there will be a chance for a scattered shower of rain in the Kingdom especially in the northern parts of Jordan, and winds will be westerly to moderate. In Aqaba winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp.
Amman 04 / 12
Aqaba 7 / 20

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Deserts 02 / 14 | Jordan Valley 06 / 19 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 11. Aqaba 19. Humidity readings: Amman 48 per cent. Aqaba 38 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

| | |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Dr. Ghali Zaid | 730111 |
| Dr. Jamil Marqas | 776121 |
| Dr. Nidal Al Dahlab | 627195 |
| Dr. Ghazi Ismail | 752405 |
| Fires pharmacy | 661912 |
| Ferdows pharmacy | 770336 |
| Al Asema pharmacy | 637055 |
| Nairoukh pharmacy | 623672 |
| Al Salam pharmacy | 636730 |
| Yacoub pharmacy | 644945 |
| Shmeisani pharmacy | 637640 |
| Fifth circle pharmacy | 813141 |
| Al Salam pharmacy | 661496 |
| Omeria pharmacy | 621306 |
| Talbi pharmacy | 624425 |
| Al Yash pharmacy | 777712 |
| Al Salam pharmacy | 666611 |
| Hisham pharmacy | 771857 |

RRBD:

Deserts 02 / 14
Jordan Valley 06 / 19

Dr. Mohammad Al-Ta'ni 273711
Al-Jazeera pharmacy (—)

ZARQA:

| | |
|-------------------|--------|
| Dr. Hisham Hiyat | 982440 |
| Khalifah pharmacy | 985417 |

EMERGENCIES

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Fond Control Centre | 637111 |
| Civil Defence Department | 661111 |
| Civil Defence Immediate | 630314 |
| Civil Defence Emergency | 199 |
| Rescue Police | 192, 621111, 637777 |
| Fire Brigade | 691228 |
| Blood Bank | 775121 |
| Highway Police | 663402 |
| Traffic Police | 966391 |
| Public Security Department | 630321 |
| Hotel Complaints | 669811 |
| Price Complaints | 661176 |
| Water and Sewerage | ..... |
| Complaints | 897467 |
| Amman Municipality | ..... |
| Complaints | 767111 |
| Telephone Information | 121 (directory assistance) |
| Omeria Centre | 621306 |
| Central Amman Telephone | ..... |
| Repair | 623102 |
| Abdali Telephone Repairs | 661101 |
| Central Amman Telephone | 773111 |
| Radio Jordan | 774111 |

Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 812615
Electric Power 636381
RJ Flight Information (8-3330)
Queen Alia Intl. Airport (8-3330)

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Mussein Medical Centre | 813813/32 |
| Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn. | 642306 |
| Akliah Maternity, J. Amn. | 642412 |
| Jabal Amman Maternity | 642362 |
| Malhas, J. Amman | 636140 |
| Pakistan Shmeisani | 661174 |
| Shmeisani Hospital | 669131 |
| University Hospital | 638465 |
| Al-Musaber Hospital | 667279 |
| The Islamic, Abdali | 660127/37 |
| Al-Ahli, Abdali | 661646 |
| Italian, Al-Muhajreen | 777101/3 |
| Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh | 775111/26 |
| Army, Marja | 981611/15 |
| Queen Alia Hospital | 602244/55 |
| Al-Hospital | ..... |

ARRIVALS

| | |
|-------|---------------------------|
| 9:00 | Jeddah (RJ) |
| 9:15 | Aqaba (RJ) |
| 9:25 | Lamaca (RJ) |
| 9:45 | Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ) |
| 9:50 | Aqaba, Doha, Bahrain (RJ) |
| 10:15 | Beirut (RJ) |
| 10:30 | New York, Amsterdam (RJ) |
| 11:00 | Brussels, Paris (RJ) |
| 11:15 | Jakarta, London (RJ) |
| 11:30 | Madrid, Geneva (RJ) |
| 11:40 | Athens (RJ) |
| 11:50 | Frankfurt (RJ) |
| 12:00 | Vienna (RJ) |
| 12:10 | Rome (RJ) |

RRBD:

Princess Basma Hospital 02/275555

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

| | |
|-------|----------------------|
| 09:35 | Cairo (GF) |
| 10:30 | Bahrain (GF) |
| 12:30 | Moscow (SU) |
| 16:55 | Lamaca (CV) |
| 17:00 | Dubai, Damascus (UJ) |
| 19:50 | Beirut (ME) |

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel. (09)533025 where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

| | |
|-------|---------------------------|
| 9:00 | Jeddah (RJ) |
| 9:15 | Aqaba (RJ) |
| 9:25 | Lamaca (RJ) |
| 9:45 | Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ) |
| 9:50 | Aqaba, Doha, Bahrain (RJ) |
| 10:15 | Beirut (RJ) |
| 10:30 | New York, Amsterdam (RJ) |
| 11:00 | Brussels, Paris (RJ) |
| 11:15 | Jakarta, London (RJ) |
| 11:30 | Madrid, Geneva (RJ) |
| 11:40 | Athens (RJ) |
| 11:50 | Frankfurt (RJ) |
| 12:00 | Vienna (RJ) |
| 12:10 | Rome (RJ) |

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

| | |
|-------|----------------------|
| 09:35 | Cairo (GF) |
| 10:30 | Bahrain (GF) |
| 12:30 | Moscow (SU) |
| 16:55 | Lamaca (CV) |
| 17:00 | Dubai, Damascus (UJ) |
| 19:50 | Beirut (ME) |

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

| | |
|-------|--------------------------|
| 06:15 | Beirut (RJ) |
| 07:00 | Aqaba (RJ) |
| 08:30 | Frankfurt (RJ) |
| 09:30 | Vienna (RJ) |
| 11:00 | Tunis, Casablanca (RJ) |
| 11:30 | Rome (RJ) |
| 11:30 | Amsterdam, New York (RJ) |
| 12:00 | Athens (RJ) |
| 12:05 | Riyadh (RJ) |
| 12:30 | Jeddah (RJ) |
| 12:45 | Aqaba, Cairo (RJ) |
| 12:45 | Damascus (RJ) |
| 12:50 | New Delhi (RJ) |
| 13:00 | Brussels, Paris (RJ) |
| 13:00 | Singapore, Jakarta (RJ) |
| 13:00 | Bangkok (RJ) |
| 13:00 | Sanaa (RJ) |

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

| | |
|-------|----------------------|
| 09:35 | Cairo (GF) |
| 10:30 | Bahrain (GF) |
| 12:30 | Moscow (SU) |
| 16:55 | Lamaca (CV) |
| 17:00 | Dubai, Damascus (UJ) |
| 19:50 | Beirut (ME) |

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower prices in Jordanian Dinars

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Apple (red) | 16:25 |
| Banana | 16:15 |
| Beans (Mekansam) | 17:45 |
| Beans | 20:00 |
| Cabbage | ..... |
| Carrot | ..... |
| Cauliflower | ..... |
| Cucumbers (large) | ..... |
| Cucumbers (small) | ..... |
| Eggplant | ..... |
| Garlic | ..... |
| Grapefruit | ..... |
| Lemon | ..... |
| Marrow (large) | ..... |
| Marrow (small) | ..... |
| Onion (dry) | ..... |
| Orange | ..... |
| Pepper (hot) | ..... |
| Pepper (sweet) | ..... |
| Potato | ..... |
| Tomato | ..... |
| Fig | ..... |
| Grape | ..... |
| Spinach | ..... |
| Mint | ..... |

Home News

Tunisia to participate in Paris Industrial fair

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will participate in an international industrial fair due to open in Paris on Nov. 30. Fourteen industrial companies and the Amman Chamber of Industry will be represented at the fair which will display metal, electric and electronic products. A delegation from the Ministry of Industry and Trade left for Paris recently to finalise arrangements for the Jordanian participation in the fair. According to chamber officials, Jordan's participation in the coming fair is designed to promote the sale of Jordanian products. He cited a statement by Michel Duger, the French Minister of Industry, who said last week that the French government welcomes the establishment of a joint Jordanian French industrial zone in the Middle East. Duger said that Jordan's exports to France last year amounted to JD 74 million while France's imports of Jordanian products amounted only to JD 3.2 million in the same year.

Attack on Tunisian ships in the Mediterranean Sea

S. Navy will launch a campaign against the piracy in the Mediterranean Sea. The French Navy will launch a campaign against the piracy in the Mediterranean Sea. The French Navy will launch a campaign against the piracy in the Mediterranean Sea.

ESCWA marks international day of Palestinian people

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) will celebrate the United Nations International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People on Monday in the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) in Amman.

The celebration will reaffirm ESCWA's commitment to the United Nations General Assembly resolution 3240 B of 2 December 1977 concerning the question of Palestine. By this, the General Assembly recommended holding official celebrations to mark the solidarity of the Organisation with the Palestinian people striving to recover their legitimate and inalienable rights.

During the day, ESCWA will organise a substantive activity, namely, an expert group meeting.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Council of Ministers approve new businesses

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Ministers Saturday announced its approval of 10 industrial projects which have a total capital of JD 21.8 million. A statement said that these projects, which will create 1,677 jobs, will be offered incentives and privileges in accordance with regulations and laws encouraging investments. It said the projects are for the production of textiles, medicinal cotton for hospitals and metal casting.

Zaqra's health department prepares vaccination programme

AMMAN (Petra) — Zaqra's health department has prepared a comprehensive vaccination campaign to be carried out in Zaqra governorate's villages. Department Director Abdul Aziz breideh said that the programme which will start in the coming month will last for 25 days and will be conducted in 30 villages benefiting children of all ages. He said that vaccination will be against polio, measles and tetanus.

Knights of Malta awarded to Jordan Red Crescent official

AMMAN (J.T.) — The council for the grand priority of the "Knights of Malta" awarded Dr. Mohammed Al Hadid, Vice-President of Jordan Red Crescent the "Cross of Honour" medal. "Knights of Malta" is a worldwide charitable organisation based in Italy, Rome. Professor S. Gunther presented the medal to Dr. Al-Hadid on behalf of the council in recognition of his distinguished humanitarian services in the region. The "Cross of Honour" is the highest award given by the council to persons for extraordinary humanitarian services.

The IDB grants loans of JD 1,850,000

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB) Board of Directors has agreed to grant 9 loans worth JD 1,850,000 to finance industrial projects. Since the beginning of this year, the IDB has given 181 loans worth JD 29.9 million to finance industrial, tourist and medical projects.

Zaqra finds food and water unfit for human consumption

AMMAN (Petra) — Zaqra Public Health Authorities Saturday found down one of the governorate's artesian wells after laboratory tests proved that water was unfit for human consumption. The local authorities said chlorine was not being used to purify water. The same authorities Saturday announced that they had seized large amounts of foodstuffs from local stores that were also unfit for consumption.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- Exhibition of paintings by Iraqi artists Ismail Fattah, Lisa Fattah and Mohammad Mohraddin at the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Gallery — (10 a.m. - 8 p.m.)
- Photography exhibition entitled "Characteristics of the Mediterranean Sea" at the French Cultural Centre.
- Exhibition by renowned Iraqi artist Shaker Hassan Al Saeed at the Jordan Gallery of Fine Arts.
- Exhibition of paintings by Syrian artist Hamoud Chantout at Baladna Art Gallery.
- Exhibition of paintings by Iraqi artists Salman Abbas and Hassan Eid Alwan at Alia Art Gallery.

Mitterrand visits King Abdullah's tomb

While Dumas discusses peace with Sharif Zeid

AMMAN (J.T.) — French President Francois Mitterrand called at the tomb of the late King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, founder of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Saturday.

President Mitterrand who was greeted by a guard of honour upon arriving at the site laid a wreath at tomb in memory of the late monarch.

The president was accompanied to the site by Chief Royal Chamberlain Prince Raad Ben Zeid, Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber, and members of the French delegation accompanying Mr. Mitterrand to Jordan.

Mr. Mitterrand also Saturday visited the Amman citadel hill, an ancient fortress located on a hill in the middle of the city and toured the archaeological sites.

The president, who was accompanied by Mrs. Mitterrand and Jordanian and French dignitaries, inspected the excavation area and the progress of restoration carried out by the Department of Antiquities in cooperation with a number of world organisations.

Antiquities Department Director Safwan Al Tel presented a briefing on the history of Amman



French President Francois Mitterrand visits King Abdullah's tomb Saturday (Petra photo)

since the early ages. From the citadel hill, the president watched over the city surveying the down town Roman amphitheatre and other historic sites.

A museum on the citadel hill houses a collection of Jordanian antiquities dating from prehistoric times. Mr. Mitterrand visited Hercules Temple where restoration work is in progress and a nearby Byzantine church.

According to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, the French president and his delegation inspected two neolithic lime plaster statues unearthed in the summer of 1983 at Ain Ghazal district of Amman. The two statues recently arrived back recently in Amman after

undergoing restoration in London. The statues are said to date back to 7500 - 5500 B.C. The president signed the visitors register at the end of the visit.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker conferred in his office with visiting French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas and reviewed the outcome of Mr. Mitterrand's visit to Israel and his talks with the leaders of the Palestinian people in Arab Jerusalem.

Petra said that the prime minister and Mr. Dumas discussed current efforts for the Middle East peace and the European role in the process.

The talks also covered Jordanian French cooperation in the economic, cultural, and scientific fields and matters related to the creation of a French European fund for the Middle East. The fund, designed to finance economic development in the Middle East region and enhance regional cooperation with Europe.

Petra stated that the fund was bound to consolidate stability and help ensure progress for all countries in the region.

France to provide radio programme for Jordan's airwaves

By Sa'eda Kilani
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — On the occasion of French President Francois Mitterrand's visit to Jordan, a French-Jordanian accord in the field of communications was signed Saturday which will initiate daily two-hour French programme through Radio Jordan.

"The political will of the two countries in this field is clear and concrete much more at present," said Catherine Tasca, Minister of State for Francophone Affairs in France. "Not only will technical cooperation continue in the future, but programmes in the French language will also contribute to promoting the French culture and thus to better understanding between the people."

The two-hour French programme which is scheduled for 7-9 a.m. started Saturday. It is transmitted on 90 mhz F.M. and includes in addition to news and French songs, a review of the Jordanian press.

"When we reach the stage of making Jordanians fully aware and well-informed of this programme, then courses in French will also be introduced," said



Mahmoud Al Sharif, Minister of Information, applauds Catherine Tasca, French Minister of Francophone Affairs and the French delegation at a Radio Jordan studio Saturday (Petra photo)

Philippe Paupert, a French expert on Radio training.

The agreement, which was signed by Ms. Tasca and the Jordanian Minister of Information, Mahmoud Al Sharif, also includes a pledge from France to supply technical assistance, required training and providing programmes from Radio France International.

Pointing to the importance of the special links between the Arab world and France, Mr. Al Sharif expressed his optimism of stronger cooperation in the future saying that "French television programmes have already created a great link between the two countries. We hope that this agreement will give a new incentive for more French Jordanian cooperation in the audiovisual field."

Seminar prepares for AIDS educational campaign

By Peter Saters
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Ministry of Health, the National AIDS Committee and the media are gearing up for a month-long public awareness campaign to educate Jordanians on AIDS. The disease has so far claimed 24 lives in the Kingdom, according to the Minister of Health. The decision was announced at a meeting Saturday held to formulate an education strategy targeted at the general public to raise and improve their knowledge of AIDS.

The campaign due to begin on December 1st will mark the first time that Jordan's media is directly involved in the fight to curb AIDS. Representatives from newspapers, television and radio at the seminar agreed to combine efforts to inform the public with a campaign slogan: "Community Commitment."

President of the Jordan Press Association Suleiman Al Oudh said that the media's task is to inform society on matters of importance and to increase awareness on such issues in a manner

that does not stir fear in the public.

The campaign, state the organisers, will not inundate the public with scientific jargon and messages of doom and gloom but rather will explain how AIDS can be transmitted.

"(We have) to avoid spreading a phobia... about the disease," said Sabah Halaseh, a specialist of health education at the ministry of health.

Because the public has a misconception of AIDS and how it is transmitted, officials say, the education package aims to dispel popular myths surrounding the disease by explaining that it cannot be transmitted through casual contact such as shaking hands, toilets, food, insects and clothing.

The campaign will succinctly spell out how to avoid contracting AIDS by advocating abstinence from unsafe and promiscuous sex, intravenous drug use and tattoos.

Dr. Janet Merza, head of the blood bank at the ministry of health and a member on the National AIDS Committee said

the main problems which hinder Jordan's fight to combat the disease have their roots outside the Kingdom. Seventy per cent of the reported AIDS cases in Jordan have been contracted through tainted blood received during transfusions, most of which took place outside the country or from imported blood, she said.

Dr. Merza attempted to calm fears pointing out that Jordan is basically self sufficient in its blood supply, except for the "eighth factor," a type of blood needed for hemophilia patients. The Jordan Blood Bank has to import a small percentage to fill its needs. Although a batch of imported blood given to 14 children was contaminated, all blood imported into the country is now thoroughly checked, Dr. Merza said.

Jordanians who work or study abroad and who have had transfusions sometimes bring AIDS into the country. According to Dr. Merza, most of the Gulf countries do not have national blood banks but instead rely solely on imported blood. Any of the 750,000 Jordanians who returned

following the Gulf crisis and who underwent transfusions could be at risk. The situation is the same with the estimated 45,000 Jordanians studying in other countries.

"The blood supply in Jordan is safe," said Dr. Merza. The Jordan Blood Bank was established in 1950 and solicits only Jordanian donors, she said.

One asset in the fight against the disease, according to officials, is the moral fibre of Jordanian society which does not tolerate promiscuous sex.

At the seminar Saturday there was some debate whether or not to include condoms in the education package with critics saying it is contrary to society's values.

Condom-use is discussed only in private consultations between doctors and patients and is not included in the current educational paraphernalia.

According to the ministry of health and the national AIDS committee, there are 78 people who are HIV positive, the virus that causes the disease. The first AIDS case in Jordan was reported in 1986.

Art exhibition juxtaposes old and new of Iraq

By Stephanie Geekin
and Curt Ryan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — As the Arab world struggles to achieve harmony between its traditional heritage and modernity, two Iraqi artists prove, through the stroke of a brush, that a convergence of the two can be dynamic. Traditional Arab and Islamic themes are effectively portrayed through the techniques of modern art in the works of Salman Abbas and Hasan Abd Alwan at their most recent exhibition which opened at the Alia Art Gallery on Wednesday.

Emanating from historic Baghdad, one source among many the exhibition's paintings depict the glories of Arab and Islamic civilisation. While Mr. Abbas' paintings celebrate the richness of Islamic architecture through abstract city-scapes, Mr. Abd Alwan's work is deeply literary in its focus and is inspired by the stories of 'A Thousand and One Nights.'

Against a backdrop of sombre earth tones and abstract geometric shapes, realistic domes and minarets appear suspended in the paintings of Mr. Abbas. In

nearly all of his work, the mosque is prominently featured; it serves as a focal point and at the same time the shape of the Islamic dome and arch skilfully serve as a frame within a frame.

Often, these architectural elements are illustrated in illuminating pastel colours, which are even more vibrant when in juxtaposition with the drab autumn shades which dominate the canvas. The asymmetrical placement of domes and minarets creates an illusion of movement and vibrancy in the foreground, while Arabic calligraphy enriches the background.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the gallery a collection of paintings by Mr. Abd Alwan nicely complements the work of his colleague. Also synthesizing new and old Mr. Abd Alwan features the most beloved stories from the Arab world which are brought to life in a modern style. His paintings are by no means simply illustrations of specific stories in Arabian Nights, rather they draw more from the general themes and symbols of the entire body of work. Through a technique which combines a speckled background with the removal of

paint immediately surrounding each figure, a glowing effect is achieved, creating a surreal quality and conjuring up dream-like images.

The artist incorporates colours which are predominantly bold and almost storybook like. Viewing the collection leaves the visitor with the feeling that he has just gone back into the world of sheherazade or the Baghdad of Caliph Harun Al Rashid. While Mr. Abd Alwan intended to create this effect, he also pointed out, at the exhibition's opening, that the figures also reflect the people of southern Iraq today.

The exhibition highlights the fact that tradition and modernity need not be exclusive. Both collections of paintings serve not only an aesthetic purpose, but perhaps more importantly as a reminder of the artistic heritage of Iraq and its cultural contribution to the Arab world. Given the tense political climate between the West and Iraq, and indeed between Iraq and many Arab states, one would be hard pressed to find finer cultural ambassadors than Mr. Abbas and Mr. Abd Alwan.

WANTED

Expatriate couple looking for unfurnished flat/villa in Abdoun. Must have at least:-
1. 3-4 bedrooms
2. 2 bathrooms (one en-suite)
3. Family room - cum - study
4. Maid's room with bathroom
5. Telephone.
We are willing to sign a 2-year lease with an option to renew for a third year.
Principals should please forward full details to:
Mr. Wise
P.O. Box 925286, Amman.
Or fax to 682047

HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AQABA RAILWAY CORPORATION INVITATION FOR SUBMISSION OF PREQUALIFICATION DATA

The Aqaba Railway Corporation invites submission of prequalification data from interested international engineering consultants in joint ventures with Jordanian Consultant Engineering firms who can qualify, through experience with projects of similar type of magnitude, for the study and design of a railway link from Shidiya Mines to the existing railway at Batn El Ghoul.

The Jordanian consultant must be listed as a first class company by the Jordanian Engineers Association.

The consultants duties are, but not limited to, the following:

- Review all previous studies.
- Prepare bankable documents.
- Prepare design report.
- Prepare preliminary design.
- Provide services during tender Evaluation.
- Provide supervision services during construction.

It will not be acceptable for any joint venture to submit, or to participate in more than one application, and any application submitted in violation of this rule will be rejected.

Prequalification questionnaire and additional information may be obtained from Aqaba Railway Corporation main office in Ma'an or Amman office. The complete questionnaire (in English) and any additional information should be submitted not later than 30 days after the publication of this notice to:

The Director General
Aqaba Railway Corporation
P.O. Box 59
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Apple Dealers Meet in Amman

Ideal Systems Co. the authorized Apple dealer in Jordan hosted an Apple Dealer Meeting which is a semi-annual event. The meeting which was organized by Arab Business Machines, the regional distributors for Apple Computer in the Middle East, was held in the Amman Marriott Hotel between the 21st and 23rd of November. Representatives from Bahrain, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Syria, UAE, Yemen and Jordan, as well as guests from France and Spain attended the meeting. Presentations were made by the participants, who also discussed issues of technology in the region, including the new products for 1993. Apple's market share in the Middle East ranges between 18 to 22%. Apple Middle East sales for fiscal year 1992 increased by 27%.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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Let the news spread

THE ONE-DAY seminar Saturday on the role of the mass media to combat AIDS is a healthy sign that the country is serious on spreading meaningful information on the disease. As science has yet to discover potent medicine against the fatal HIV virus, the only effective means left for mankind against the spread of the acquired immune deficiency syndrome is preventive medicine. And the best prevention is disseminating accurate information on how the virus is contracted and means to reduce if not eliminate contracting it. The most effective way to inform the public on how to avoid contracting the disease is of course the mass media.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Ministry of Health, the organisers of the seminar, are, therefore, clearly on the right track. What remains to be done is the release of full and accurate information on all aspects of the contagious ailment. This is an indispensable factor with which mass media cannot ever hope of fulfilling its part of the bargain. The fact that the number of patients suffering from AIDS in Jordan has jumped from 38 in 1989 to 72 this year demonstrates that the number of victims in the country has increased by 90 per cent in less than three years. This is indeed a phenomenal and worrisome augmentation in AIDS sufferers and should sound the alarm before the problem expands to unmanageable proportions.

In this vein, one thing is already clear; in spite of protestations to the contrary, Jordanians are also promiscuous. We have an untold number of sexual encounters in spite of our stringent religious and traditional standards. The country is also fast developing a touristic industry and the arrival of greater number of tourists into the Kingdom may also entail an increase in sexual contacts between foreigners and Jordanians. Jordanians are also travelling abroad more than ever. The number of Jordanian students studying at foreign institutions of higher learning is also on the increase.

The country has also a problem with contaminated blood, including blood that was imported from West Europe. Last summer the country was taken by surprise when they discovered that blood which had been imported from Austria was found to be contaminated. Mass media has therefore a double role in this context: One to acquaint the public with the latest information on AIDS and the other to demand stricter control on the supply of blood being used in our hospitals.

Over and above this dual mission could be the call for the application of a more severe punishment on all those responsible for the use of contaminated blood. Criminal negligence in the administration of medicine in the country needs to be more rigorously pursued in order to drive home the message that Jordan is really serious about medical malpractices. Civil liabilities ensuing from criminal negligence in the practice of medicine must also be encouraged by journalists. Members of mass media have therefore solemn, multi-dimensional duties in this area of public concern and are expected to perform them forcefully, clearly and boldly.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I daily Saturday tackled the visit to Jordan by French President Francois Mitterrand, describing it as an endeavour on the part of Amman and Paris to pursue the drive towards bolstering bilateral cooperation in all fields. The talks conducted between the French leader and King Hussein covered the role which Europe can play towards giving momentum to the peace process, said the daily. It is clear that the French president has succeeded in emphasising the French stand with regard to the peace process, particularly during his visit to Israel when he called for the involvement of the PLO in the peace process, said the paper. It said that the president also announced France's support for the Palestine state, an announcement that is bound to enable France to play an active role in the peace-making process. Needless to say that the Jordanian-French joint concept towards democracy, as a requirement for political life further enhanced at a time when Jordan is determined to pursue the process of democracy which is an inevitable course of action at the political level. The King has emphasised that Jerusalem was part of the occupied Arab lands and that Israel's drive to deprive the Palestinians of their rights was one of the major obstacles in the path of peace. Let us hope, said the paper, that Paris will now embark on serious efforts within the European Community to remove these obstacles and help the region live in peace.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour daily Saturday urged France to end the injustice and the embargo clamped on the Iraqi people. "The Iraqis have suffered a great deal from the sanctions which are also hurting Jordan's economy," said Mohammad Kawash. We have read the French president's statements about the sufferings of the Iraqi people and we want to emphasise here that the Iraqi government has complied with the U.N. Security Council resolutions and therefore there is no justification for the Iraqi people's continued sufferings, said the writer. France is not America, which is imposing the sanctions and causing so many sufferings to the civilian population of Iraq and therefore the Arabs hope that Paris will take the first move towards ending the injustice, he said. The world community realises that the reasons for imposing the sanctions do not exist any more and that the Iraqi children are in need of milk and the sick of medicine, added the writer.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

London Club on hold for now

Several rounds of negotiations between Jordan and the London Club have not resulted yet in a mutual agreement on prices and terms, despite the agreement on the general framework of a Brady-type formula, in line with the agreement between the London Club and Argentina.

The London Club is the representative of lending banks and other commercial creditors which carry over \$1.2 billion of claims on Jordan, or less than one fifth of Jordan's overall external indebtedness.

According to the economic adjustment programme, it is an IMF condition that Jordan should reach an agreement with the London Club, and clear arrears before June 30, 1992. However, the deadline was extended to Dec. 31, 1992. It is almost taken for granted that a further extension, perhaps till June 30, 1993, will be granted by the IMF, which is willing to give Jordan ample time to make an acceptable agreement not under pressure. The IMF representatives were convinced that Jordan is negotiating in good faith and is eager to resolve the deadlock as soon as the London Club shows flexibility and accepts the strong arguments presented by the Jordanian Minister of Finance, Basel Jaradneh. Jordan suspended all payments to commercial creditors in August 1990 under the impact of the Gulf crisis. However, Jordan started to pay 30 per cent of the interest that fell due since the autumn of 1991 as a gesture of good will.

Disagreement began when the London Club offered Jordan an

agreement similar to that signed with the Philippines, which was firmly rejected in favour of an Argentine-type agreement, which is considered to be the best agreement obtained by a Third World country in line with Brady plan.

Later on, the London Club agreed to offer Jordan an agreement identical to the Argentine accord, but Jordan asked for certain improvements in terms and prices to reflect the recent shift that took place in the international capital markets, namely the decline in interest rates structure of the dollar.

The minister of finance argued that when Argentina signed its agreement a short term interest on the dollar, as reflected by the London Inter Bank Offered Rate (LIBOR), was 5 per cent but had dropped to below 3.5 per cent at the present. Long term interest rates, as reflected by the yield on 30-year U.S. treasury bonds, were at 8.5 per cent and also dropped to 7.5 per cent now. Jordan should benefit from this change in circumstances, and consequently obtain lower prices than stipulated in the Argentine agreement, the minister of finance insisted.

The IMF economists were convinced that the Jordanian minister of finance had a point, but the London Club did not budge; not that the club has a valid counterargument, but it did not want to yield and make a precedence that other Third World countries, with much greater debts, may benefit from. This would be too costly to the creditors, the London Club reasoned. It finally opted to leave things with Jordan as they were, rather than

making the concession.

The London Club may be better off waiting in order to a concession that may be too costly at the global level. Jordan can afford to wait until a fair agreement is available, as long as IMF shows understanding and sympathy with the Jordan position.

In the meanwhile, Jordan continued to buy back its commercial debts in the secondary market at a big discount. Jordan is 35 cents on the dollar of principal and 45 cents on the dollar of overdue interest. If this process continues for some time, Jordan's commercial debts may be reduced to one third of the amount. One drawback though, the structure of interest may rise again, in which case Jordan's bargaining position will weaken.

The government gave the minister of finance free hand to make the best possible deal with the London Club in the circumstances. The London Club in turn described Basel Jaradneh as the toughest negotiator and a debtor country. They may be right!

As long as Jordan is living up to the provisions of adjustment programme, and beating the economic and financial targets set by the programme, no undue pressure is expected to be exerted by the IMF. Jordan is becoming more valuable to the IMF as a show-case of success. It is a living example of adjustment growth, something which was thought to be impossible to

Partition of Palestine: Tragedy and unfulfilled promises

By Pascal B. Karmy

ON NOV. 29, 1978, the United Nations decided that that day shall be consecrated as the day of solidarity with the Palestinian people. It was also on this day in 1947 that the United Nations General Assembly passed Resolution 181 (II) partitioning Palestine into two states; one Arab and the other Jewish.

The partition resolution was passed by 33 votes against 13. It is common knowledge now that many of the states which had voted for the partition did so under duress or heavy pressure from President Truman himself. The latter often bypassed the State Department and issued instructions directly to the United States delegation during the debate on the Palestine question at the General Assembly. Truman himself was under unprecedented pressure from the Zionists and the Jews in the U.S., as his memoirs show.

In his memoirs he recorded the following: "The facts were that not only were pressure movements around the United Nations unlike anything that had been seen before, but that the White House, too, was subjected to a constant barrage. I do not think that I ever had as much pressure and propaganda aimed at the White House as I had in this instance. Some of the extreme Zionist leaders were even suggesting that we pressure sovereign nations into favourable votes in the General Assembly."

An important witness of this inordinate pressure on the General Assembly members is recorded by James Forrestal, then U.S. secretary for defence. In his diaries, he stated the following: "There was a feeling among the Jews that the United States was not doing what it should to solicit votes in the U.N. General Assembly in favour of the Palestine partition. I thought that it was a most disastrous and regrettable fact that the foreign policy of this country was determined by the contribution a particular bloc of special interests might make to party funds. ... I thought that the methods that had been used by people outside of the executive branch of the government to bring coercion and duress on other nations in the

General Assembly bordered closely onto scandal. ... Our Palestine policy had been made for squalid political purposes."

Stephen Penrose, president of the American University of Beirut, criticised the American pressure in favour of partition as follows: "The political manoeuvring which led to the final acceptance of the United Nations General Assembly of the partition provides one of the blackest pages in the history of the American international politics. There can be no question that it was American pressure which brought about the acceptance of the recommendation for partition of Palestine by the General Assembly on Nov. 29, 1947."

All the above shows clearly that the members of the General Assembly of the United Nations were in fact unwilling to partition Palestine which existed as one unitary state. As a consequence of this partition, the British mandate over Palestine ended in a tragedy which hardly has any parallel in modern history and our region is still suffering from its calamitous effects.

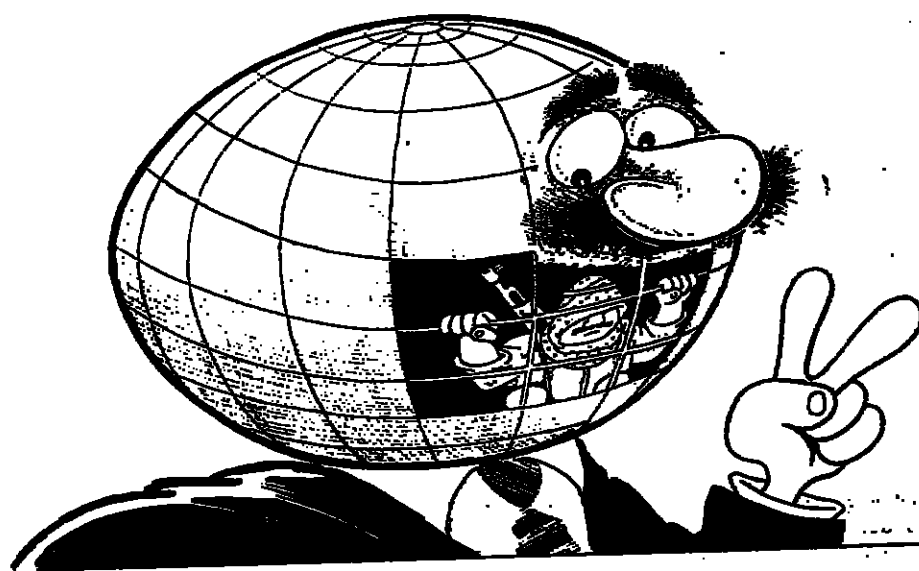
As to the legality of partition, several jurists and law authorities questioned and even impugned the legality of the partition resolution. The late jurist Quincy Wright published an article in Duke University Review of the winter 1968 entitled "The Legal Aspects of the Middle East Situation" in which he doubted the legality of the General Assembly Resolution for the partition and stated that the Palestinian Arabs seem to have a good case though it is unfortunate that an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice was not obtained on the issue.

In effect, in 1947 the Arab states requested the General Assembly to refer to the International Court of Justice for an advisory opinion on legal issues affecting the Palestine question, including the question of the General Assembly's competence to recommend or enforce any plan of partition of Palestine. But the Arab states were not strong enough to bring pressure to bear upon the members of the General Assembly to agree to refer the

Palestine question to the World Court. On the other hand, the United States and its allies were

forces occupied in 1948 almost 78 per cent of the area of Palestine and there remained 22 per cent

since 1947, which has not been resolved according to international legitimacy and justice. I re-



M. Kahil

not anxious to have their efforts to secure a favourable vote on partition hampered by an adverse judicial ruling.

Ian Brownlie in his book Principles of Public International Law observes: "The United Nations cannot assume the role of a territorial sovereign and the resolution of 1947 containing a partition of Palestine was probably ultra vires (in excess of legal authority)."

Dr. Mohammad Hafez Ghanem, the Egyptian international jurist, states in his book Principles of Public International Law: "The United Nations had two choices to adopt: either to put Palestine under international trusteeship, as provided under Article 75 of the Charter of the United Nations, or to declare its independence."

The partition of Palestine attributed to the Jews of Palestine — who were less than one third of the population and owned less than 6 per cent of the land — an area representing 57 per cent of the area of Palestine. The Jewish

unoccupied. And now Israel, in its negotiations with the Palestinians, is offering to give them sole control over only part of this remaining area, another part to be under Israeli control and the third part to be under joint Israel-Palestinian control. In effect Israel is tearing the remaining Palestinian territory into shreds.

As a result of the partition of Palestine, the Palestinians suffered successive holocausts, not an exaggerated or blown up one as the Jews of the world are wont to do with regard to the Nazi persecution. The Palestinian holocaust occurred first in 1948 with the Deir Yassin massacre and continued with Qibya, Kafr Qassem, etc. to Sabra and Shatila in 1982 and up to date.

The Israeli army is killing

Palestinians in cold blood, brutally with the methods used by the Nazis against resistance forces in the European countries under German occupation in World War II.

From the partition has ensued a conflict in the Middle East,

member the late well-known Lebanese writer Michel Chiha writing in the Lebanese French language newspaper Le Jour several articles in which he warned the Western powers against the partition of Palestine on the ground that it would cause untold misery to the people concerned and that it will sow the seeds of conflict and turmoil in the Middle East. Michel Chiha's foresight proved to be correct. The bloody conflict is still persisting.

In 1948, the Palestinians were considered as one of the most, if not the most, developed people in the Middle East. They greatly helped in the development of the Middle East countries, particularly in the Arab Gulf states where the people were in doldrums and where one could hardly find an administrator or an expert in any profession. They have in effect run the administration of many states in various fields and activities for many years. They have proved their mettle wherever they are. Many of them have

attained high positions in many European countries' until the U.S. there is a cated and qualified community. Is it not the civilised world, in Arab states, to have tragedy befall the people? And to have persist for more than years?

The Palestinians struggling to regain by means a rump of their Palestine, namely the And Gaza Strip, but I biggest stumbling blo way. Israel is denying them their right to live their own territory, and right to self-determin is denying their natu return to their home vided in General Ass solution 194 (III) of 1948, while it is thousands of Jews in Soviet Union and Europe who are not re Hebrews of the Old and who have never time.

Israel must never c historical destiny of East region. There are two hundred million in another generation. be double this num must discard its arc expansionism by rely military and nuclear ! It cannot guarantee able to keep up with iority or that the Arab not attain the same n nuclear capability in Nor will the United America be able for ever to secure Israel's let alone its indepen As the historian Fan stated in his book The Fall of the Great Pow not been given to any c to remain permanently all others." Israel sh fore come to terms with baring states and th nians and relinquish t and occupied territ genuine peace agreee in the framework of Council resolutions 242 425.

Human rights group raps land mine manufacturers

Following is a report released by the Middle East Watch, a division of the Washington-based Human Rights Watch.

The Iraqi army, far in excess of military necessity, sowed and then abandoned millions of land mines in northern Iraq that cause an ongoing threat to the lives and well-being of Iraqi Kurds.

In "Hidden Death: Land Mines and Civilian Casualties in Iraqi Kurdistan," Middle East Watch charges that the fault for civilian casualties resulting from these land mines lies not only with the irresponsible manner in which they were laid but also with the designers, producers and distributors of land mines. The mines were laid in areas that restrict the agricultural use of the land, endanger the safe return of refugees and inhibit the rebuilding of destroyed villages.

In the Mawat district of north-east Kurdistan alone, over 100 Kurds were killed by land mines in the year following the March 1991 uprising.

The devices used in Iraqi Kurdistan were mostly Italian-manufactured or designed.

In a series of recommendations, Middle East Watch calls upon the Italian government and the European Community to investigate the massive exports of

land mines and land mine technology by Italian companies. Middle East Watch further urges the European Community to take a moral lead by considering an unconditional ban on the manufacture, possession, transfer, sale and use of anti-personnel mines by its members. The U.S. Congress has just taken an important step in this direction by enacting a one-year moratorium on U.S. transfers of land mines.

This report is one of a series by the regional divisions of Human Rights Watch that documents the effects on the civilian population of land mines used in internal armed conflicts. In 1986, Americas Watch published a report on land mines in El Salvador and Nicaragua. In 1991 Asia Watch documented the land mines scourge in Cambodia. Future reports in this series will focus on Angola and Somalia. In addition, the Helsinki Watch and Asia Watch divisions of Human Rights Watch have published several reports that deal with land mines in Afghanistan. The Arms Project of Human Rights Watch, established in September 1992, will undertake a global campaign to prohibit the manufacture, transfer and use of land mines. So far as Human Rights Watch has been able to determine, Afghanistan, Angola, Cambodia, Somalia and

Iraqi Kurdistan have the largest number of land mines in areas that are vital to civilians among the many countries in the world where these weapons have been planted.

"Hidden Death" presents findings from surveys by Middle East Watch of fifteen mine fields in the Erbil, Sulaymaniyah and Dohuk governorates. Even in this limited sample, there were five mine fields where a total of 30 persons, mostly refugees fleeing the Iraqi army, had been killed in the space of five months. All the mine fields surveyed were heavily mined with a variety of sophisticated devices, many booby-trapped to prevent easy clearance.

The most common mines Middle East Watch encountered during this mission were the Valmara 69 and the VS-50. The SB-33 and PMN-HGE were also extremely common. Three of these mines are of Italian design, while the PMN-HGE is a derivative of the Soviet PMN. French, American and Chinese land mines are also to be found in Kurdistan. While it is beyond the scope of "Hidden Death" to document fully how each type of land mine got to Iraqi Kurdistan, Middle East Watch does discuss briefly what is known about the sources for these weapons.

Middle East Watch makes a

series of recommendations to protect the Kurdish civilian population in northern Iraq from land mines. Among them:

— Use posters and radio to further educate Kurdish refugees and returnees about the danger of land mines.

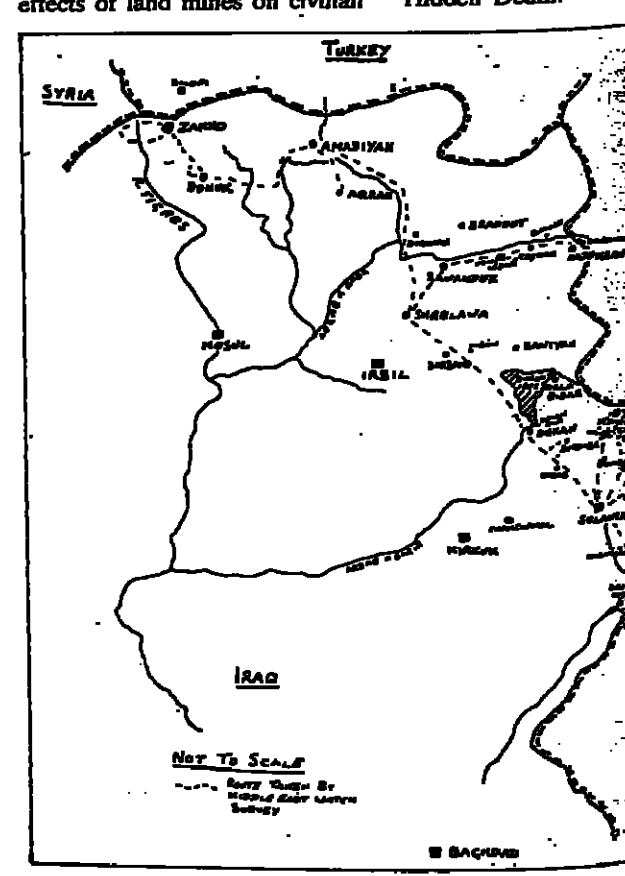
— In those areas where there is perimeter fencing around mine fields, or where the boundaries are well known to some local people, a programme of affixing mine field warning signs should be initiated immediately.

— The need for organised clearance of land mines from Iraqi Kurdistan is a humanitarian imperative. Middle East Watch calls on the Italian government to become a major donor to such an effort because such a large majority of the mines are of Italian design or manufacture that Italian authorities have a moral responsibility to assist in such an initiative.

— Maximum technical and financial support should be made available to Kurdish-run medical facilities, especially Sulaymaniyah Hospital.

Middle East Watch urges the United Nations and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to reevaluate the effectiveness of Protocols I and II of the 1981 Convention on inju-

rious weapons based on the populations as illustrated by "Hidden Death."



Features

King, Mitterrand

(Continued from page 1)

becomes subject of speculation, pointing out that there have been progress on the tracks of the talks. The draft agenda came in the form of a letter from the King to the President of the United States, which was then passed to the Israeli government. The King's letter was a response to a question from the President about the situation in Jordan. The King's letter was a response to a question from the President about the situation in Jordan. The King's letter was a response to a question from the President about the situation in Jordan.

lack of continuity due to the nature of things that have prevented us from achieving complementarity in the absence of democracy. "Jordan did not begin with me and will not end with me," the King said, assuring that his health "is fine."

"It is not I, it is Jordan that matters," the King said.

Commenting on the situation in Iraq, the French president said the lifting of the sanctions on Baghdad depended on the Iraqi regime calling on Iraq to abide by Security Council resolutions.

During his visit to the Kingdom, Mr. Mitterrand also held talks with King Hussein on Jordanian-French cooperation in economic, cultural and economic fields.

France and Jordan signed a financial protocol under which Amman will receive a French franc 80 million soft loan. The two countries signed agreements on health and telecommunication cooperation. France will also assist a French language channel on Jordan Radio.

President Mitterrand, who was accompanied by Mrs. Danielle Mitterrand and an official delegation was seen off at Queen Alia International Airport by King Hussein, Her Majesty Queen Noor, His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Ben Al Hussein, His Royal Highness Prince Ali Ben Al Hussein, Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, Chief of the Royal Court Khaled Al Karaki and other senior government officials.

U.N. officials

(Continued from page 1)

oldiers under U.N. auspices to ensure the safety of workers and shipments and to bring about security and stability in the country, which has been under the throes of clan violence and politics since independence in 1960. The U.N. officials were hoping that things would get better in terms of security and stability in the past few weeks, said Mark Stirling, representative of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in Amman. "But the hopes were dashed by the hijacking of the car he was travelling in, and the two gunmen were supposed to have him protection in such a situation could do little to prevent the new Toyota Cressida from being taken off the road."

that touches down. "I wonder when they would start collecting arrival and departure taxes from relief officials," said a Pakistani seargant, who gave his first name Amjad. "It is frustrating to stand here idle and watch these people enforce their outrageous demands."

"It is time the U.N. gave us some teeth so that we could show them what security is all about." In a recent incident, gunmen attacked a vehicle carrying three officers of United Nations Operation Somalia (UNOSOM). One of the officers, an Australian, was critically wounded while the two others suffered medium injuries. The vehicle was stolen.

Two other UNOSOM soldiers were stripped of their uniform and left on the roadside to wait for their friends to bring them clothes.

"These people have little respect for anyone else in the world," commented a member of the UNOSOM observer mission, which is supervising an Addis Ababa ceasefire agreement signed in March. Members of the mission, unlike the Pakistani soldiers, do not carry weapons.

"It needs someone to come here and start kicking butts," said the officer, who preferred not to be named. "Without kicking butts nothing is going to improve in Somalia. It is of course for their good."

Venezuelan troops

(Continued from page 1)

western Caracas, Fuerte Tiuna, the government said. Mr. Gruber is no. 3 in command within the Venezuelan military command.

In contrast to the Feb. 4 uprising that was fomented by younger army officers, this uprising was led by disaffected top ranking air force and navy officers and their supporters, including some civilians.

Venezuela is one of Latin America's longest standing democracies but has been beset by unrest and economic troubles stemming from a downturn in oil prices. Venezuela is the third-largest oil producer in OPEC.

Mr. Perez, whose five-year term is to expire in February 1994, is widely unpopular, but most citizens appear to equally distrust military rule, which ended in 1959.

Mr. Perez, in one of three televised addresses Friday, said Venezuelans should be thankful for the armed forces' loyalty.

The independent newspaper El Nacional reported Saturday that the leader of the leftist group Red Flag, Gabriel Puerta Aponiente, was killed in the fighting at Maracay.

Puerta was among the most famous of the leftist guerrillas who flourished in the 1960s. Venezuelan journalists Virgilio Fernandez and Ernesto Key also were killed when they were caught in crossfire between rebel

and loyal forces in Caracas, El Nacional said. It put the death toll in the uprising at the least 100.

Street demonstrations supporting the rebels were broken up by police units and the national guard, witnesses said.

A 6 p.m.-6 a.m. curfew was in effect overnight, one of the extraordinary measures that the government decreed to quell the rebellion. Other measures included suspending some constitutional rights, such as public gatherings, and authorising security forces to conduct arrests without warrants.

Destruction resulting from the gunfire and bombing were visible around the Miraflores Palace.

Two rebel planes staged repeated attacks, blowing away part of the walls. Bullet holes pock marked the president's office.

In one of the raids, Mr. Perez was forced to leave his main office in the palace and flee to an underground bunker. Witnesses said he was seen crawling on the floor.

Mr. Perez, 70, has been criticised for corruption and economic problems in the country, and the Social Democrat's popularity recently was rated at a scant 9 per cent.

Venezuela's economy showed an 8.5 per cent growth rate in the first half of 1992, but 23 per cent of the population lives in extreme poverty.

Central Asian nations

(Continued from page 1)

bers to seek opportunities for trade and influence in Central Asia.

ECO has since introduced a preferential tariff arrangement that cut duties on a small range of goods to 10 per cent and is setting up an investment bank.

"The most important and dynamic mix seems to me to consist of massive investments in infrastructure and the encouragement of the private sector which can bring together resources and act as a multiplier for development," Mr. Sharif said.

Pakistan was already building a network of highways and railways to link the landlocked nations of the former Soviet Union with the Arabian sea, he said.

Mr. Shamshe Ahmed stressed the importance of the ECO's enhanced bargaining power in international forums, but said it was keen to cooperate with other regional groupings.

The new-look ECO will take time to develop into a major economic force because most of the former Soviet republics lack infrastructure as well as technical know-how, analysts said.

Obstacles also stand in the way of realising the ancient Russian dream of access to a warm water port, the nearest to Central Asia being Pakistan's port city of Karachi.



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Barkley, Parish lead Suns, Celtics to wins

By The Associated Press

HAKHEM OLAJUWON took advantage of the absence of three Miami centres by hitting 16 of 30 from the floor and scoring 33 points in Miami Friday to lead Houston to its seventh win in its last eight games.

Olajuwon added 17 rebounds and eight blocked shots. He has had a double-double - double figures in two offensive categories in each of Houston's first 10 games.

Olajuwon scored eight of his points during a 20-3 run that put Houston up 70-53 with 4:36 left in the third period. Miami responded with a 21-8 spurt to close to 70-74, but the Rockets used a 9-2 run to go up 91-80 at the 5:03 mark and put the game out of reach.

Suns 121, Warriors 107

In Phoenix, Charles Barkley scored 20 of his 29 points in the first half and **Danny Ainge** scored 16 of his 22 points in the fourth quarter, leading Phoenix past Golden State.

Christ Mullin had 27 points for the Warriors, including a technical free throw and a 3 pointer in a 33 second span early in the final period which cut a 7 point Phoenix lead to just three, 88-85.

But Ainge, who had a 9-of-11 night from the field, scored the last eight points of a 10-0 run midway through the period, hitting a three-point play, a short basket and a 3 pointer for a 102-90 Suns lead.

Celtics 111, Hornets 102

In Boston, Robert Parish scored 24 points and help Alonzo Mourning to 5-of-18 shooting as Boston ended a five game Charlotte winning streak.

Mourning had nine points in the first quarter, but they all came in the opening three minutes. After that, he seemed to run out of energy and often found himself trailing plays when the Celtics had the ball.

Parish, at 39 the oldest player in the NBA, entered the game averaging just 10.1 points a game. Xavier McDaniel added 25 points and 11 rebounds for the Celtics.

Magic 130, Pacers 116

In Indianapolis, Scott Skiles scored 32 points and Shaquille O'Neal had 21 points and 11 rebounds in front of a rare sellout crowd at Market Square arena.

A crowd of 16,530 came to see O'Neal, but the sensational 7-foot rookie was upstaged by Skiles, a former Pacer, who broke the 30-point mark for the second straight game.

Orlando also got 23 points from Jeff Turner. Dennis Scott scored 21 points and Nick Anderson had 20 as the Magic won its fourth in five games. Reggie Miller led the Pacers with a season-high 29 points. Detlef Schrempf added 10 points. Pooh Richardson scored 16, and Vern Fleming had 15.

Nets 112, Jazz 110

Sam Bowie had 27 points and 10 rebounds in Salt Lake City as New Jersey broke an 11-game losing streak to the Jazz and extended Utah's baffling home-court drought.

Utah, which recorded an NBA best 37-4 home record last season, is 1-4 at the Delta Centre this season.

Karl Malone topped all scorers with 32 points, while Jeff Malone had 32 and John Stockton added 20 points and 14 assists.

Women's basketball championship

Al Orthodoxy set to continue unbeaten record

By Aileen Bannayan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Al Orthodoxy play Al Ahli and Al Jazireh play the Rosary Sisters School in the final matches of the women's basketball competition organised by the Jordan Basketball Federation (JBF) on the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's birthday.

Al Orthodoxy seem well on their way to winning first place after they defeated Al Jazireh 58-41 and the Rosary Sisters School 78-11.

Al Ahli, who have been runners up to Al Orthodoxy in the women's basketball league for the past four years, have not shown their usual form. They lost to Al Jazireh 51-34 and scored an expected 40-24 win over the Rosary School.

Al Jazireh, who finished third in the women's league standings this season, humiliated Al Ahli and stood up to Al Orthodoxy, and are expected to score a big win over the Rosary School.

The fourth women's club team, Homentmen, who finished third



Al Orthodoxy club's team

after Al Orthodoxy and Al Ahli last year and fourth this season have not taken part in this tournament.

Meanwhile, the second round of the men's under-22 competition is still underway as Al Jalil and Al Orthodoxy seem headed

for a final showdown after showing a strong winning form over Al Ahli and Al Hussein.

Active 1993 schedule

The JBF has announced the basketball schedule for the upcoming 1993 season, in which the

recently reshuffled federation is apparently set to focus on the tournaments for all age groups including mini basket, U-14, U-16, U-18, U-22, in addition to First and Second Division Championships, the Women's Championship, and an all-star competition.

Other issues on the federation's agenda include referee training and upgrading seminars, translating the updated international basketball rules and sending two coaches to an advanced mini-basket coaches seminar in Japan in March 1993. The two coaches are likely to be Imad Saeed and Fadi Al Sabbah.

The JBF is keenly intent on regrouping the men's, women's and youth national teams in preparation for upcoming regional and Asian championships, including the Asian Youth Basketball Championship in Hong Kong in February 1993, the Asian Basketball Championship in Jakarta, Indonesia in November 1993 and the Women's Asian Basketball Championship in Sri Lanka in 1994.

Jordan Cup semifinals begin today

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Soccer fans will again head for the stadium in the coming two weeks as the semifinal round of the Jordan Cup kicks off when Al Ahli play Al Qadisiyah Sunday and Al Faisali play Al Wihdat Monday.

Since it was first organised in 1980, the Jordan Cup has been played on the basis of a knockout competition. However, this year the Jordan Soccer Federation (JSF) decided that the teams will play a semifinal round instead of two semifinal knockout matches.

The top four teams reached the semifinals after scoring convincing victories in the quarterfinals. Al Qadisiyah eliminated Al Jazireh 3-1, Al Faisali beat Shabab Al Hussein 2-0, Al Ahli beat Al Sarh 3-0 and Al Wihdat overcame Al Baqa'a 3-0 in a penalty shootout after they drew 1-1.



Al Faisali are aiming for a record sixth title

usually eliminated in the quarterfinals were the top four did not have a hard time overcoming them.

But what about Al Ramtha.

the titleholders for the past two years, and Al Hussein, who were runners up in the first division this year?

Both teams had early exits, as Al Hussein were the only first

division team to compete in the preliminary round and were surprisingly knocked out by Al Baqa'a. First division teams entered the competition in the round of 16 when Al Ramtha were eliminated after they drew 1-1 with Al Jazireh who later won the penalty shootout 3-0.

In the upcoming six semifinal round matches, the four teams are expected to have an aggressive competition to qualify for the final, as each has a score to settle and a record to set.

Al Faisali are aiming for a record sixth Jordan Cup. They were runners up twice. Al Wihdat have won three times and were runners up once. Al Ahli were runners up twice, while Al Qadisiyah have mostly been eliminated in the round of 16 for the quarterfinals.

The semifinal round will run up to Dec. 11. All matches will be played at Al Hussein Youth City Stadium in Amman.

SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

Gullit: Club presidents must take strong stand

MILAN (AP) — Dutch national soccer team captain Ruud Gullit Friday asked Italian club presidents to take a strong stand to stop a rash of anti foreigner and anti semitic incidents at games, including postponing League and cup matches if necessary. "The immediate intervention by (Silvio) Berlusconi and (Gianni) Agnelli would give people a clear signal, indicating whose side they're taking," said Gullit, a native of Suriname and one of the three Dutchman on defending Italian League champion AC Milan. Media tycoon Berlusconi and Agnelli, the chairman of automaker Fiat, own perennial powerhouses Milan and Juventus of Turin.

Aamodt edges Tomba in Cup opener

SESTRIERE (AP) — Norway's Kjetil Andre Aamodt edged Italian star Alberto Tomba by one hundredth of a second Saturday in the first heat of a giant slalom, the opening event of the men's World Cup in this Alpine resort. The 21-year-old skier from Oslo, the Olympic Super G champion in Albertville, mastered the Kandahar Dorgata course in 54.56 seconds. Tomba, supported by a crowd of partisan fans, was timed in 54.57. Sweden's Johan Wallner edged defending World Cup champion Paul Accola of Switzerland for third place.

Hong Kong racehorse virus baffles experts

HONG KONG (R) — A mystery virus which has struck hundreds of Hong Kong racehorses and closed both racetracks in the gambling-mad colony is baffling experts, local racing bosses said. But they said there were signs the epidemic of the respiratory illness was abating and racing might resume before Christmas. Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club chief executive Major General Guy Watkins told reporters that of the nearly 1,000 racehorses in the colony, 76 were ill, more than 300 were convalescing and more than 500 more were "liable to sicken" if the epidemic spread further.

Maradona threatens to return to Argentina

MADRID, Spain (AP) — Diego Maradona threatened to return to his native Argentina if the financial problems between Sevilla and his former club Napoli weren't solved, news reports Friday. FIFA said it may issue a ruling Dec. 4 at its regularly scheduled meetings to resolve the dispute if Sevilla failed to secure a \$4.5 million guarantee with an Italian bank. The money, which is the remainder of a \$7.5 million contract for the transfer of Maradona, was due Wednesday. The first \$3 million were paid Sept. 30. Earlier Friday, Napoli called for Maradona immediately to be kept from playing for Sevilla until the guarantee, part of his transfer deal, was arranged.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF
AND TAMARA HIRSCH
Treasure Media Services Inc.

DON'T UPSET THE ORDER

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
6 4 3
K J
K Q J 5
A K 7 2

WEST EAST
K 10 8 J 9 7
9 7 5 3 6 6 2
6 4 2 8 7 3
8 6 3 Q 10 9 4

SOUTH
A Q 5 2
A Q 10 4
A 10 9
J 5

The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 6 NT Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Three of ♣

Combining more than one line of play requires careful planning. You must test the possibilities in the right order to make sure that all of them are available. This is a simple example of what we mean.

A straightforward auction lands you in six no trump. Despite the club weakness, the South hand is near maximum for that action and

any other opening bid could lead to enormous problems later in the auction. With a balanced 17 points and no four-card major, North's leap to slam is eminently sensible.

After the lead of a heart there are 11 fast tricks. A 12th can be developed by two different finesses in the black suits. A normal finesse of the queen in spades, what the French call an *impasse*, or a lead up to the jack of clubs, the *cassette*.

Both have a 50 percent chance of success. However, that does not mean it makes no difference in which order you take them. Try the wrong one first and your chances of making the slam drop from 3-to-1 in your favor to even money.

Suppose you win the first trick in dummy and take the spade finesse. If it loses, you can no longer lead toward the jack of clubs—some defender will score the queen to set you—and have to hope for a singleton queen of clubs. However, if you lead a club toward the jack at trick two and East holds the queen, the slam is home. If West has the queen of clubs, you can still fall back on the spade finesse for your 12th trick.

World Athletics Championship faces problems

BONN (R) — Stuttgart's plans to host next year's World Athletics Championships could still fail at the last minute because of cash problems.

The south German city has been left with a bill of at least 13 million marks (\$8.1 million) to pay for the organization which the international and German athletics authorities refuse to cover.

While organisers were keen to stress Friday that they expected the prestigious track and field event to go ahead in Stuttgart, leading local politicians say a no vote cannot be discounted at a meeting of the city council next

week. "It cannot be ruled out completely that the championships will be given up," prominent council member Matthias Hahn said.

"The athletics authorities make a lot of money with this event and we are being made to pay for it and take on the risks and the deficit. It's an unpleasant situation."

The bill for the August event is estimated to be at least 40 million marks (\$25 million).

The council is aware that a decision against the championships would severely damage Stuttgart's international reputa-

tion but opposition is expected to come from members who want the money to be used for other services.

Hahn said that although some council members were frustrated by the situation, he predicted they would finally vote to keep the event because the city had already invested six million marks (\$3.75 million) promoting the championships.

"We are in the middle of a river with water up to our necks. If we swim back to the bank where we jumped in then we have spent six million and have nothing. If we swim for the other bank we pay 13 million but we at

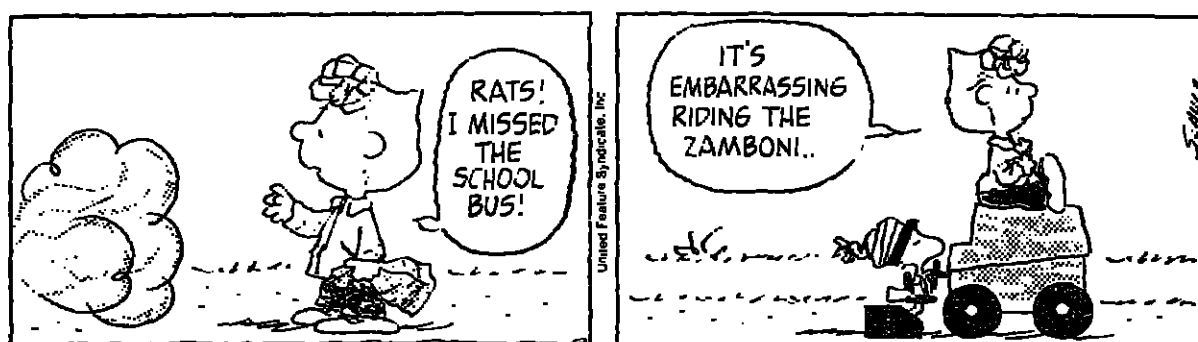
least have an event," he said. "Pulling out would damage the image of the city."

The International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF) and German Athletics Federation (DLV) signed the official contract to stage the event earlier this week.

Chief organiser August Kirsch said Friday he had no reason to doubt that Stuttgart, venue for the 1986 European Athletics Championships, would stage the event.

City sports director Gerhard Lang said he expected to get the vote through the council sitting.

Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY NOVEMBER 29,

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Fine day for short business trips or for obtaining information needed before discussions with allies those plans you have been wanting to develop for a long time. Procrastinate no longer and expect positive results.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Your own ideas and judgment are best so get along with them and do not get mixed up in some old unfinished venture that conflicts with valued personalities.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Private studies into ways to have more of the things you want the most brings good results but spending on pleasures or mate should be put off.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Consider well before you tie your self down to some outside partner and utilize members of your own family to give suggestions you now desire most.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Put aside those tasks facing you for the day while you make headway where there are newcomers or schools of thought helpful to you.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Sideswipe usual pleasures and look for ways to be more practical if both where you budgeting as well as having more economy in your life is concerned.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Avoid any arguments or bring-

ing up issues that members of your seek some better which to deal with.

LIBRA: (September 22) It is not the day date with those who your life and the would be wise to brilliant outside who.

SCORPIO: (October 22) Take your money matters and terests today and overall plan of bringing you success ties.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22) You tied down to some condition holding it this occurs consider outside vocational.

CAPRICORN: (December 22) Don't worry get your space instead be off to a where you get a feeling for the future.

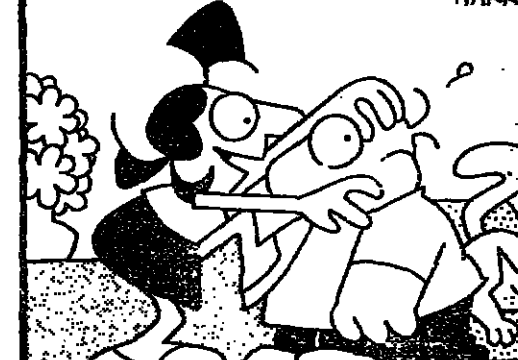
AQUARIUS: (January 22) Think about best avoid a demanding acquaintance as energies into making contacts for best results.

PISCES: (February 22) Keep out of the those of influence to put your efforts in partner to go along with your views.

THE BETTER HALF

By H

HARRIS



"I want to try out a new hug. It's French double loop with a twist"

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD

by Henri Arnold and

Unscramble these four Jumbles. One letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DIATS

HANNE

ENWAKE

YULTIG

Answer here:

Yesterday's Jumbles: GUILT INLET NEWEST EXODUS

Answer: A guy selected to be boss is often the doesn't this—NEED ONE

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, guessed by the above cards

(Answers)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GUILT INLET NEWEST EXODUS

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(Answers)

تَكَذَّبُ مِنَ الْأَصْلِ

German police open fire to stop riot

BERLIN (R) — Police opened fire and seriously wounded a teenager to quell a riot by a hundred youths in a rundown district of the east German city of Leipzig, police said Saturday.

A police spokesman said 41 rioters aged 16 to 29 were detained while 24 officers and 14 youths were injured in the fighting on Friday night.

He said the riot, as opposed to recent clashes between police and neo-Nazi and leftist militant gangs, had no apparent political motive.

The trouble began after police detained two youngsters for smashing windows and car windshields with baseball bats, he added.

Other youths built street barricades and rained stones and petrol bombs on the officers, one of whom fired twice in self-defence. One bullet hit a teenager in the hip.

About 180 riot policemen with water cannons moved in to stop the riot.

Germany may deprive rightist leaders of their civil rights such as the freedom of speech in an effort to crack down on anti-foreigner violence, an official said Saturday.

"All possible steps are being considered in the fight against far-right extremists, including the removal of civil rights," an Interior Ministry spokesman told Reuters.

The option was being weighed as part of Germany's new-found determination to combat rightist after three Turkish females were killed in a neo-Nazi arson attack last Monday.

On Friday the authorities banned the Nationalist Front (NF), a neo-Nazi party, and announced the arrests of eight reputed members of a gang specialising in firebombing refugee homes.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl's government, blasted for months at home and abroad for being slow to clamp down on rising xenophobia, said banning the NF was an "unmistakable warning signal" to rightist gangs blamed for 1,800 attacks on foreigners this year.

At least 16 people have died in the violence, inspired in part by an uncontrolled influx of foreign asylum-seekers expected to reach half a million before the end of the year.

Leading extremists could be deprived of freedom of speech and the right to vote or run in

elections under article 18 in Bonn's post-war constitution.

The article says, in part, "whoever abuses freedom of expression of opinion... in order to combat the free democratic basic order, shall forfeit these basic rights."

It stipulates such a decision must be made by the federal constitutional court.

Interior Minister Rudolf Seiters, who ordered Article 18 to be considered as a weapon against neo-Nazis, Friday called the 130-member NF an "active fighting organisation aiming to dispose of our democratic order."

Police raided 35 NF centres in nine of Germany's 16 states Friday. The Interior Ministry of North-Rhine Westphalia, Germany's most populous state where the NF is based, said extensive Nazi propaganda material, uniforms, camping tents, a rifle and ammunition had been seized in 10 raids.

The NF's platform was copied in part from Hitler's Nazi party and it maintained a "nationalist action commando" to fight against foreigners, political opponents and the state.

The party ran military exercises for members and earlier raids had

unearthed weapons, ammunition and material for bombs.

Further neo-Nazi parties likely to be suppressed include the German Alternative and the Free German Workers Party, which openly seeks a restoration of a Nazi Reich.

The far-right Republicans protested against a decision Friday to ban a meeting of about 600 Republicans planned for Saturday in Hanover.

Republican leader Franz Schoenhuber, a member of Hitler's elite Waffen-SS units during World War II, said banning the meeting was "a capitulation by government officials to street terror" by leftists.

Officials banned the meeting because of the danger of clashes between the Republicans and groups of pro-asylum activists and leftwing militants.

In Moelln, where the three Turks died in the worst outbreak of neo-Nazi attacks on foreigners, 7,000 people marched in a protest against racism Saturday.

Police said fighting broke out late Friday in Hamburg when a gang of Turks smashed windows in a pub frequented by German skinheads. One was treated in hospital for a fractured skull and 20 were detained.



Jordanian soldiers search people as they walk inside a Hercules C-130 transport plane. The Jordanian Air Force transport plane evacuated 90 nationals of various Arab countries from Sarajevo. A U.N. peacekeeping official said the evacuees were mostly civilians from Jordan and Syria (AFP photo)

Relief convoy reaches Bosnian town

BELGRADE (R) — A U.N. convoy succeeded in entering the blockaded Bosnian town of Srebrenica Saturday after being held up for three days by angry Serbs, a United Nations spokesman said.

"I can confirm that it has got to Srebrenica and is unloading," said the spokesman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Belgrade.

The convoy was greeted by cheering crowds lining the streets when the trucks rolled into Srebrenica, according to a BBC Radio reporter who accompanied the convoy.

Organised by the UNHCR, the convoy represents the third U.N. attempt to take aid to Srebrenica, which has been entirely cut off since fighting began in Bosnia last April.

The BBC said Serb forces had lifted their blockade on the mainly-Muslim town, where con-

ditions were described as appalling, with people living on a diet mainly of oats and grass.

BBC correspondent Jane Howard said in her report: "Crowds lined the streets as we drove into Srebrenica, the first aid workers and Western journalists to enter the town since the siege began."

She added: "The first person we spoke to said 'thank God you've come.' He was thin and baggard."

Earlier Saturday, the convoy was allowed to cross a bridge from the Serbian border of Ljubovija into Bosnia, where it was met by a welcoming ceremony staged by local Bosnian Serbs.

Its passage had been blocked since Wednesday by angry crowds of women and children who refused to allow it past.

Meanwhile, Bosnia's Serb leader Radovan Karadzic insisted Saturday that his armed forces

had signed a truce with neighbouring Croatia — despite Croat denials that such an agreement had been made.

He also denied Muslim suspicions that the agreement was part of a plan to carve up Bosnia between Serbs and Croats and leave its Muslim population out in the cold.

According to Mr. Karadzic, the truce agreement said fighting would end at midnight on Nov. 29. He said it was signed by Bosnia's Serb military commander General Ratko Mladic, the leader of the National Guard of the Republic of Croatia, General Janko Bobetko, and the head of the United Nations Peacekeepers in Bosnia, General Philippe Morillon.

Representatives of Bosnia's majority Muslims, nominally Croat allies, were not present at the talks and the agreement did not include Bosnia's Croat forces.

Yeltsin plays down prospect of congress clash

MOSCOW (R) — President Boris Yeltsin Saturday played down fears that conservatives would overthrow radical reformers at next week's key session of Russia's supreme legislature.

"My main concern is to maintain the course of reform and of democracy," he told a meeting of Moscow intellectuals before the seventh Congress of People Deputies opens next Tuesday.

Mr. Yeltsin denied he had given to a powerful centre-right grouping, dominated by former Soviet factory bosses, which wants to stop Acting Prime Minister Yegor Gaidar's exhausting gallop towards the market economy and replace it with a gentle walk.

"I can't agree that the so-called industrial lobby is leading us by the nose," he said.

This week, Mr. Yeltsin sacrificed two key radical aides. The move fuelled fears he was ready to dump the unpopular government for industrialists. Information Minister Mikhail Poltoranin resigned and State Secretary Gennady Burbulis was moved into another job.

The personnel changes, critics charged, were a front for changes in economic policy being hammered out behind closed doors. If the industrialists took the place of more radical ministers, Mr. Gaidar's "shock" market reforms were doomed.

But Mr. Yeltsin told the intellectuals his motives had been misinterpreted. Although he has been forced to make a few compromises, his commitment to reform was as strong as ever.

"I must honestly admit that I have made some compromises but their nature is tactical rather than strategic. We have had some reshuffles. That was not an easy decision. But they were not dictated by any retreat from reform."

"The task before me is to preserve, not to destroy, the team," he added. But a calm and smiling Yeltsin added that he had become convinced that it was now necessary to broaden the base of politicians carrying out reforms.

Mr. Gaidar and his government of young, market-minded economist friends brought in

painful shock reforms from January. Since May, the radical team's numbers have been thinned as Mr. Yeltsin gradually brought in industrialists to key posts.

The industrialists want a slower transition to market reform with more emphasis on social protection for the poor and loans to crumbling state industry.

The pace of radical reform has anyway slowed in recent months, with minimum wages being raised and loans to industry increased.

"The corrective in the direction of the reform undertaken recently has brought in realism and more social orientation in the reshaping of the country," Mr. Yeltsin said.

"This in no way means a rejection of radicalism in reform."

Many politicians feared that extremist nationalists and former Communist deputies at the congress, which meets every six months, would use widespread discontent with the economic crisis to push for the resignation of Mr. Yeltsin himself.

Deputies in the standing parliament said this week that Mr. Gaidar and the industrialists

would avert this threat by doing a deal in a joint economic programme which would dilute reform.

But Mr. Gaidar exploded that belief when he presented the conservative standing parliament with the new reform plan he will take to the congress next week.

It paid lip service to social protection measures. But it refused to give up its original tough of single-digit monthly inflation and a small budget deficit, demanded in the West if Russia is to get billions of dollars of aid.

Mr. Yeltsin said he had had several discussions about the congress with his most flamboyant conservative critic, Parliament Chairman Ruslan Khasbulatov.

"In principle, we have no disagreements on the tactics, agenda, form or even on the mood of the congress," he told reporters before addressing the intellectuals.

The mercurial Khasbulatov made a subdued television appearance Friday night, forecasting there would be no "cataclysms" at the congress and saying he would like Mr. Gaidar to be confirmed as prime minister.

Amnesty blasts alleged EC asylum plans

BRUSSELS (R) — The human rights group Amnesty International has criticised proposals on asylum policy which it said will be discussed by European Community (EC) ministers next week, saying they would set a dangerous precedent.

If proposals to tighten up on unfounded claims were accepted, the 12 governments would be reintroducing international law in a way that will stack the deck against genuine refugees, it said in a statement.

"The watering down of refugee protection in Europe is all the more disturbing because the decisions are being taken behind closed doors — without public or parliamentary debate or the involvement of independent experts and refugee organisations," it said.

EC ministers responsible for immigration are meeting in Lon-

don Monday and Tuesday, partly to consider adopting a resolution on common asylum policies in preparation for the post-1992 single market.

The legally binding Dublin Convention on Asylum Requests signed by EC states in 1990 has not yet been ratified by all countries.

Amnesty International, joined by the European Consultation on Refugees and Exiles, blasted proposals that would institute a special speedy process for dealing with "manifestly unfounded" asylum claims. That could prevent fair hearings or appeals, it said.

It said the governments also wanted to expand the definition of abusive or unfounded asylum claims to include those where refugees could have sought protection in another region of their own country or in a third country. Meanwhile the European

Community, buried under a landslide of political and economic troubles this year, has just two weeks before its leaders meet for a key summit to put its grand plans for the continent's future back on track.

At a meeting in Brussels Friday, foreign and finance ministers from the 12 EC countries failed to bridge their differences over how to finance the community in coming years.

With EC leaders due to meet in Edinburgh in two weeks' time, the Community is also struggling to turn the Maastricht blueprint for political, economic and monetary union into reality in the face of problems in Denmark and Britain.

The economies of the twelve are struggling with weak or non-existent growth, the authority of EC governments and of the commission in Brussels is in doubt and there may still be a show-

down between France and most of the other members states over the terms of a world trade deal.

About the only thing everyone at Friday's meeting seemed to agree upon was that they had to sort out the worst of these troubles before Edinburgh.

"Time is short, let's hope that we succeed," Dutch Foreign Minister Hans Van Den Broek told Reuters. "We need a clear signal of confidence to the outside world that we are getting our house in order."

"We all want Edinburgh to be a success. It would be dramatic for the Community... if we didn't have a success," French European Affairs Minister Elisabeth Guigou told reporters.

EC countries committed themselves earlier this year to resolving problems with Community finances and the Maastricht treaty in time for the summit on Dec. 11-12.

Ireland faces weeks of coalition wrangling

DUBLIN (R) — Ireland Saturday faced weeks of wrangling over the formation of a new coalition after voters delivered a crushing verdict on the politics of the last 70 years and looked to the Labour Party for a more liberal society.

They also sent a clear signal in favour of less rigid abortion laws in Catholic Ireland in a referendum that threw out proposals to allow abortion only in rare cases where a mother's life is at risk.

Campaigner Ailbhe Smyth said the result showed Ireland had "rejected the extremism of the anti-abortion lobby in favour of a more caring and compassionate response to the causes and consequences of crisis pregnancy."

Far from settling the emotive issue, the referendum ensured that abortion would be high on the agenda of a new coalition. Voters approved by a 2-1 majority the right of women to travel abroad for the operation.

All parties have said they now favour legislation that will in future include threats of suicide as grounds for abortion.

But the shape of the new government was far from clear as the last results trickled in after three days of counting.

Negotiations will not start until next week despite a pressing need for Ireland to send a signal of stability to currency markets which view the Irish punt as the next candidate for devaluation in the European exchange rate mechanism.

Caretaker Finance Minister Bertie Ahern Saturday dismissed speculation that the punt could be devalued over the weekend.

"Not a chance. There's not a chance of us doing it today," he told reporters before a cabinet meeting to discuss the European currency crisis.

Prime Minister Albert Reynolds' ruling Fianna Fail remained the largest party after Wednesday's polls but lost 10 seats and is unable to form a majority government. Some senior deputies suggested the party should go into opposition rather than seek an alliance.

Opposition Fine Gael, which founded the Irish state in 1922, also lost ground as electors eager for change switched the allegiances of decades.

They returned double the number of Labour deputies and a record 20 women to the 166-seat parliament.

Bookmakers cut the odds against Dick Spring becoming Ireland's first Labour prime minister after the 42-year-old former rugby international emerged holding the balance of power with 33 seats.

Mr. Spring, Ireland's most popular politician, has demanded a stint as premier as the price for Labour joining any new coalition, even though his party would be only a junior partner.

The idea is unheard of in Ireland but has worked in Italy where Socialist Giuliano Amato is currently premier in a coalition dominated by the Christian Democrats.

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Workers pick through rubble at Vienna palace

VIENNA (R) — Work began Saturday to protect the imperial Hofburg Palace from further damage as the last embers were still flickering 31 hours after the blaze struck one of Vienna's most important historic sites.

Rain was helping to dampen the cinders, taking over from the strong winds that fanned the fire Friday, and city's firefighters declared the emergency officially lifted.

Newspaper and television pictures of the inferno engulfing the rambling complex of Baroque buildings, destroying the magnifi-

cent Redoutensaal Ballroom have shocked Austrians.

"I'm shattered, I wept," one old lady told Austrian Radio. "It hurts your heart," said another. They and other members of the public interviewed near the palace said they would gladly donate to any fund set up to help finance restoration.

Among the messages of condolence was one from Britain's Queen Elizabeth, whose own palace of Windsor Castle was by ill-fated coincidence badly damaged by fire only last week. For the officials in charge of

restoring one of the country's prime tourist attractions to its former glory Saturday's rain was creating more problems.

"The one thing which is a real priority is the fight against water, against damp, which is coming from below but especially from above," said National Monuments Office Director Gerhard Seiler.

Workers have begun to clear the rubble, dismantling unsteady stone work and erecting a temporary roof to prevent further damage to frescoes which suffered from the firefighters' hosing as well as the blaze itself.

150,000 greet Clinton at California mall

SUMMERLAND, California (R) — President-Elect Bill Clinton got some advice from former President Ronald Reagan — make ample use of the Camp David presidential retreat — then went shopping at a mall to chants of "Bill, Bill, Bill" from a cheering crowd of 150,000.

Mr. Clinton flew to California Friday for a brief vacation with his wife Hillary and daughter Chelsea, her friend Elizabeth Flammang, and Hillary's parents, Hugh and Dorothy Rodham.

They are staying at a beach house here belonging to longtime friends Harry Thomason and Linda Bloodworth-Thomason, producers of the hit American television series *Designing Women* and other shows.

But before starting his fun in the sun at this seaside resort town, three miles east of Santa Barbara, Mr. Clinton took time to visit Mr. Reagan and stop at a nearby suburban mall to shake hands, sign autographs and talk to an adoring crowd.

As many as 150,000 people crowded into the sprawling mall hoping to catch a glimpse of the Democratic president-elect, who managed to get in a little shopping amid chants of "Bill, Bill, Bill."

"I am very moved," Mr. Clinton told the crowd.

"I think there is a new feeling of hope in the country," Mr. Clinton told reporters as he crowd cheered him on. "I think people want something good to happen."

"I think they feel we can make a new beginning. A lot of people have said here, 'we don't expect miracles, we just want you to go to work.'"

Earlier in the day, Mr. Clinton met Mr. Reagan to get some advice from the successful two-term Republican president.

Mr. Clinton said the two men talked for more than an hour about the changeover at the White House, the economy, the budget deficit, foreign issues and

"some personal aspects" about the presidency.

Mr. Reagan told him to spend as much time as possible at the presidential retreat in Camp David, Maryland, to find some rare privacy.

He thought that Hillary and Chelsea and I should make ample use of Camp David, that it is about the only place where you can really walk freely and be alone... He said it will help you keep your peace of mind."

Reagan spokeswoman Cathy Goldberg said the two men enjoyed a "warm and friendly visit" and also discussed the former president's upcoming trip to Britain, where he will meet with Prime Minister John Major and Queen Elizabeth II and deliver a speech at Oxford University.

Mr. Reagan was highly successful in guiding landmark tax policy through Congress in his presidential honeymoon days, and Mr. Clinton hopes to enjoy much of the same success when he takes office on Jan. 20.

COLUMBIA

Defaced That painting from parliament

LONDON (R) — former Prime Minister Thatcher has been re Britain's parliament body added an A moustache, par sources said. The Press Association quoted a friend of Thatcher as saying it that the painting is defaced. The moustache of Nazi dictator Hitler using a ballpoint pen by artist Henri commissioned by House of Commons committee and put a room of Britain's building in September renowned for her nonsense style of was Prime Minister until 1990. She is not of the unelected Upper Lords.

Mobile phones arrive in Burma

RANGOON (AP) — phones are coming Asia's least developed following the signing ment between it and a foreign corporate-owned world Daily reported Sans initial 1,000 mobile phone will be in use 1993 after the constr necessary telephone the Burmese capita phones are being Ericsson Ptd. Ltd., which signed an ag day with the govern and telecommunication ment, the newspap

As sober as a Ask a police

LONDON (R) — A trial turned into a sion for the jury white wine was en dance. Lawyers for Thomas Courtney in jurors to sample a b. Gewurztraminer (a from one alleged had "spiked" small gave her with a Courtney, who den indecently assau women, said the naturally spicy fla Lawrence Verney i jurors they did not h the wine, though a. But the judge did tal when he spotted a d ing a sip.

Lords say no to ladies

LONDON (R) — O bastions of male pr train's aristocracy, keep things that way o a move to give lords choose daughters as Diamond, an 85-year commoner who was peer in 1970, prop centuries of tradit hereditary peers in E Wales the option to r titles to their eldest He told the House o restrictions on the in eldest sons was sation. His motion w when an amendment tively wrecked the p supported by 60 vo

Embassies still owe millions parking fines

WASHINGTON (A) — ign embassies, large requests they pay up, i District of Columbia million in overdue pa fines, a television i ported Friday. The c D.C. government wil million tickets a year, cles with diplomati license plates are n from the law. The vehi be towed for nonp fines, however, beca cannot seize foreig The state departu threatened to delay i plates to embassies th city large amounts of former Soviet embas the biggest delinque \$4.3 million in fines i tickets as of Nov. 1, so the D.C. Department Works. Next is the E paid tickets and owes Egypt, South Korea and round out the top fi \$93,000, \$75,000 and \$ respectively. Some diplo sions have made effor but still owe a lot. San for instance, has paid the past three years another \$46,000. The Kingdom still owes, \$8 paying about \$8,100.